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#### THE LEATHERNECK, APRIL, 1950

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 4

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#### SOUND OFF

Edited by Sgt. Frank X. Goss

#### NIGHTMARE

Leatherneck:

Here is my problem. I am a Marine and I can truthfully say, I try to be one. But what I learn and see from day to day seems just like a waste of time. At 10:00 p.m. lights go out and from then on it just seems like a nightmare. The fellows come back off liberty loaded with everything but aviation gasoline, drunk and having no consideration for another man's property or even the government's property. Tables, chairs, lockers, bunks, showers and windows are damaged beyond repair. After a week or two passes the same fellows complain that there are no showers, or tables to write on. I am very much discouraged in having to cope with all the childish and fiendish ways of my fellow Marines. I can see going out and having a sensible and practical time but there is a limit!

From a discouraged Pfc (Name and station withheld)

• We thought this letter presented such an important problem relating to the daily life of the many Marines who live in barracks that we circulated it among members of the Leatherneck staff who are unmarried and live in the Headquarters Battalion Barracks here

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

#### THIS MONTH'S COVER . . .

ETACHMENTS of Marines have been stationed aboard U. S. men-of-war since the days of the Continental Navy. Acting as riflemen, gunners, and ship's landing force the colorful Leathernecks are the skipper's troops. Here the captain of the USS Valley Forge inspects his Marines lined up on the flight deck. Photo by SSgt. J. C. Slockbower. See page 10 for more on sea-goin' Marines.



# Via the Air Route

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#### SOUND OFF

[continued from page 1]

at Henderson Hall and asked for their reactions. As a result of the several comments made by these men of varied ranks it appears that this man's criticism of barracks life is essentially justified and over-due for corrective action.

It seems that a few knuckleheads who can't hold their beverages, or who are just plain crude and inconsiderate often turn the barracks into a boar's nest of din and destruction during the after duty hours when many of the men want rest, refaxation, and some semblance of home-like atmosphere. At best, living in a barracks is none too good—particularly in many of the var built types. However, most men realize that some crowding and lack of privacy is part of military life. Making the best of the situation is the job of all Marrines.

We believe it is possible to make barracks life at least acceptable and congenial for the average man without going to the extent of decorating with flowered drapes as some services do. We therefore suggest:

 Commanding officers and duty officers make a detailed inquiry and check of what goes on in their barracks when the boys come off of liberty.

That duty NCOs lower the boom on noisy and destructive men who disturb the barracks peace.

3. That "social pressure" be put on the inconsiderate individuals by the men who have to bunk with them.

4. Commanding officers and Chaplains hold school on manners and improved group living. 5. That, where possible, barracks be divided into cubicles with wallbeard or lockers that provide some privacy.

Even it some Marines may act like animals brought up in a barn, the majority like to live as gentlemen with some respect and consideration shown for their privacy and rights during their off duty hours.

Editor-Publisher

#### WOMAN MARINE ANSWERS

Gentlemen

Regarding your January issue of the Leatherneck, I wish to refer you to the letter of Pfc John H. Reynolds, USMC, Guam, M.I., ridiculously attacking Women Marines. If Pfc Reynolds will look up the history of the Marine Corps he will soon learn that not only during World War II did the Women Marines earn recognition for the fine job they did, but during World War I as well. At that time the Women Marines were known to the world as Marinettes.

In the world today there are many outstanding women working in fields that were once controlled by men. Madame Curie made her mark in science, Babe Didrickson in sports, Amelia Earhart gave her life for aviation, and Frances Perkins, former Secretary of Labor, devoted her energies to a career in government work. These are only a few of the many great women who have made great achievements in their fields, so why not the Marine Corps?

A woman has stood by the side of every great man ready to help share his problems and offer her help. Women as well as men were pioneers of yesterday. Now women want to be pioneers of today; not inactive but active in all the affairs of the world. They are entitled to the same recognition that the men have previously received from posterity.

I would suggest that before Pfc Reynolds starts "Sounding Off" on a subject that he is not well acquainted with, he do a little research on it and then present the facts, not presumptions.

> Betty L. McKay Pfc. USMC-W

Washington, D. C.



Dear Sir:

A few of my pals and I have been discussing what the spread eagle on the Marine Corps emblem stands for. According to the Marine Corps Guidebook it stands for the Nation. Now these friends of mine have the belief that it stands for the Marine Corps aviation arm. I would appreciate it very much if you would correct the one who is wrong.

Pfc Arthur L. Sawyers, USMC FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

• The eagle on the Marine emblem, as stated in the Guidebook, is emblematic of the Nation. Although the globe, anchor, and eagle could conceivably represent the varied duties performed by Marines on land, sea and in the air, the parallel is coincidental and has no basis in fact.—Ed.

#### TURN PAGE

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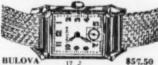
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#### SOUND OFF (cont.)

#### OPEN LETTER ANSWERED

Sirs.

My congratulations to you on your answer to Corp. John J. Ivanhoe in reference to the "Open Letter" in Sound Off. (November issue)

In civilian life, I work for the oldest American fire insurance company in the United States (1792). At our home office we have senior officer's mess where the top executives may eat luncheon together and talk over business problems quietly. Junior officer's mess is frequented by the various heads of departments for the same purpose. To top this off, there is a large mess hall for the regular employes who eat the very same food as the senior and junior executives.

Personally, I think it is the very same as the U. S. Marine system and it works out very well for all concerned.

I have been a subscriber to Leatherneck since 1943 and I have never written in before, but I just could not help writing to make this comparison.

Edwin K. Luscombe Cambridge, Mass.

Sirs.

Having just read the "Sound Off" column in the November issue of your magazine I consider the open letter from Corp. Ivanhoe of Camp Pendleton one of immense importance and therefore serious enough to warrant an immediate comment.

First of all, I must agree with him whole-heartedly because I sincerely believe he has brought to light several misconceptions of the modern Marine Corps. It actually is a known fact that one of the main reasons for so much dissension among the personnel of the Marine Corps is discrimination . . .

You quoted the Navy Regulations to the effect that no superior shall be unkind or unjust to his subordinates. We can't deny that it isn't written in black and white but to what extent have these orders been enforced? In my opinion, there are entirely too many publications that mean too little to certain individuals!

The real trouble here lies in the fact that there are too many incapable and inefficient "leaders" who act not according to any set standards but by their own selfish code. It appears as though these people are not interested in working toward a common goal but more toward a goal that will benefit only themselves or a chosen few.

It has been proven in the past that a war simply cannot be won or a peace preserved by individuals such as these. Therefore, it would seem to be of a greater advantage to the Corps if this situation were remedied immediately. I am not in a position to criticize the Marine Corps policy but I am, however, suggesting a change if our world peace is to be secure. Trivial as it may seem, it could develop into serious complications if a high morale and an efficient military organization is to be maintained.

Speaking of re-enlistments I might add, quite unofficially, that less than 5 per cent of the men who have been discharged from our squadron have re-enlisted. That should prove something to our statisticians. Those who did re-enlist were above the fourth pay grade, which goes on to prove that some parts of our Marine Corps aren't as popular as some people may think.

Perchance by the time you read this and if and when it is published I shall be among the lost souls who have ventured into that cold, cruel and dark world called civilian life, where there are no egotists and cliques which may gain self-satisfaction at my expense.

Thank you for your attention. If my letter is not published would you please forward it to Corp. Ivanhoe? Sgt. Jake W. Ezell

\* \* \*

Edenton, N. C.

Sirs.

Received my November copy of the Leatherneck and, as usual, started with Sound Off. This letter is but another humble reply to Corp. Ivanhoe who seems to be quite persecuted.

I join the Editor in branding myself as a gung-ho, Corps-happy person, though I am a former Pfc. Evidently the corporal should have joined the Air Force, if he wishes equality with his superiors. I enlisted after the war, but at no time prior or during my brief tour of duty did I ever place myself under the misconception that our Marine Corps was a democratic organization. An organization which is both democratic and military could never have amassed the great amount of glory as has the Corps.

I shall also take the prerogative to speak for the Marine Corps League, of which I am a member and past officer. "Why is the Marine Corps disliked by so many men in so many aspects?" asks Ivanhoe. Evidently Corp. Ivanhoe has yet to come in contact with the League. If "so many," and as many as Ivanhoe seems to think, disliked the Marine Corps to any extent the League would not exist. We are proud of our Marine Corps, our Marine Corps League, and our fellow Marines. With pride and esprit decorps the Corps was formed and has survived the past 174 years. If the



Condensations of letters received by Leatherneck appear below. The name stated first is that of the person wishing to establish contact with the last named person or persons.

Andrew (Hammer) Hanahan, 521 S. La Vengne Ave., Chicago 44, Ill., to hear from Pfc Francis H. Killeen or any other buddies who served with Engineer Supply, Seventh Service Regiment in Tientsin, China, from 1946 to

Karl Schuon, Box 1918, Washington, D.C., to hear from Frank L. Kluckholm concerning present address.

. . .

. . . Morton W. Muntz. 415 College St., Bowling Green, Ky., to hear from Mrs. Bonnie Thompson, wife of the late William T. Thompson, "K" Btry, 15th Marines Sixth Division, or anyone knowing of her whereabouts.

. . . Reno Ruozzi, 126 Standish Ave., Plymouth, Mass., to hear from Arthur Gorup, a Field Cook who served with him in "A" Co., 1st Medical Battalion in the Russell Islands. Okinawa and China.

Ex-GySgt. Theodore J. Broun, Box 449, Chillicothe, Ohio, formerly with "G" Co., 2nd Battalion, Seventh Marines, to hear from Captain Frank C. Railsback, GySgt. Earl Lowder or Earnest Gatto.

. . .

Ralph H. Jones of 3213 S. Adams St., Marion, Ind., to hear from or about Sgt. James S. Fields who is known to have served aboard the USS Maryland prior to Dec. 7, 1941.

. . .

. . . Glenn L. Stueve, Rt. #2, Armstrong, Ia., to hear from anyone knowing the whereabouts of former sailor Bill Pyle. Also old buddies who served in Co. I, 3rd Bn., Twenty-sixth Marines, Fifth Marine Division.

Sgt. Clifford H. Beasley, Wpns. Trng. Bn., MCRD, Camp Matthews, San Diego 42. Calif., to hear from SSgt Frederick A. Brickman who served aboard the USS Little Rock (CL-92).

. . .

#### Kwack, Kwack

We don't know what a Kiwi sounds like when it lays an egg but we do know that such an occurence is a rarity. According to a news item picked up from down under a certain 12-year old female Kiwi, who was confined at a place known as the Hawke's Bay Acclimatization Society's farm at Greenmeadows, New Zealand, has caused a buzz of excitement by laying an egg.

Her mate, a 22-year old male Kiwi, now has to sit on the egg 76, possibly 80, days before it is hatched.

And, if you are wondering what the rare wingless bird looks like-just do as we did -take a gander at the not-sorare Kiwi polish every Marine seems to have on hand. The bird's picture is on the can.

Nelson C. Royall of Powhatan, Va., to know whereabouts of Michael Esposito whose home is Brooklyn, N.Y. Esposito was an M.P. with the First or Sixth Marine Division on Okinawa,

Michael Sarachman, Jr., 1134 Marshall Ave., Pittsburgh 12, Pa., to hear from Paul G. Carroll. Carroll is known to have served with the Marine Detachment aboard the USS South Dakota in 1944.

. . .

Mrs. Dan Eldridge, Seaboard, N.C., to hear from or about Fred J. Benton who served with Sig. Co., Hq. Bn., Fifth Marine Division.

Oscar C. Cook, 106 Park Court, San Antonio 6, Tex., to hear from Sam Fuentes whose last known address was Hunters Point, San Francisco, Calif.

. . .

Pfc Leo Caraway, MB, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Navy 115, FPO, New York City, N.Y., to hear from Pfc William Lloyd Boutwell and Pfc Horace M. Goldman. Last known address was MB, Treasure Island, where they were awaiting transfer to Pacific Garrison Forces.







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## Major H. H. Arnold (the late General 'Hap" Arnold) was writing of his aviation school experiences during World War I. The accounts appeared in the periodical,

The USS CHAUMONT was enroute from Manila and due in San Francisco. The USS HENDERSON was at Hampton Roads ready to sail for the West Indies. The USS ORION was at the Norfolk Navy Yard for overhaul. The USS KITTERY was ready to sail from Hampton Roads for the West Indies.

U. S. Air Service and Leatherneck ran his stories in installments.

The Honorable Theodore D. Robinson, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and his aide, Commander R. L. Gromley, USN, arrived at Parris Island, S. C., for an inspection tour. They were met at Yamasee by Brigadier General Harry Lee and his



John Philip Sousa

The late General H. H. "Hap" Arnold

A full battalion of Marines was drawn up to honor General John J. Pershing, former commander of the Expeditionary Forces, when he and his party paid a first official visit to Cuba.

. . .

John Philip Sousa was living in retirement on the North Shore of Long Island. The world famous composer and musician and founder of the U.S. Marine Band, had taken up trapshooting as his favorite pastime upon retirement.

After shattering two world records by doing 4000 meters in 11:30 4/5 and 4000 yards in 10:31 flat, at the Knights of Columbus games in New York City, Paavo Nurmi dropped out, having covered 3000 meters of the 5000 meter race. The race was the feature of the meet, and Nurmi, running against his fellow countryman, Willie Ritola, had a tremendous lead and with but three laps to go, suddenly was seen to slow up, clutching his side in pain. He immediately left the track and was hurried home under a physician's care.

#### SOUND OFF

[continued from page 4]

corporal dislikes us so much he is probably not alone in his dislikes, for by now he is probably disliked by many, many persons himself. "Teamwork?" It takes quite a bit of it to last 174 years.

I still can't understand how any Marine can't "belong" in the Marine Corps. He'll never be in better company.

Donald L. Clinard

Urbana, Ill.

I am writing you at the risk of being accused of a tendency toward being gung-ho, which may or may not be true. You may draw your own opinion after you-have read this letter.

In the November issue of Leatherneck you printed a letter from Corp. John J. Ivanhoe, in which he states that he would like to hear other opinions concerning his "Open Letter." Here is one man's opinion on the subject.

As I understand it, the Marine Corps believes and tries to teach to its members that patriotism and devotion to country as well as honor, integrity, and the faithful performance of duty are to be valued above any personal advantage or advancement.

These truths may not be taught overnight but are picked up from day to day occurrences, of which discipline plays a most important part. As most of us know, discipline results from training. The necessity of discipline is never fully comprehended by some people until they have undergone the experience of battle, and even then some are unable to compare the contrast between the efficient combat action of a disciplined unit to the shameful failure of one which lacks this quality.

Competition is offered in war more than in any other endeavor and the results are disastrous to the loser. The reward of competition in the Marine Corps should not be another chevron or a place at the head of the mess table but rather the personal satisfaction of achieving a job well done. It seems to me that Corp. Ivanhoe . . . is forgetting that the primary reason for having a military service of any kind is (to be prepared for) war.

I would like to state further that I will be discharged by the time you receive this. As it will answer another of Corp. Ivanhoe's questions as to why

some men prefer civilian life to a career in the Marine Corps. I will explain why I am not shipping over.

My first reason is this: I find it hard to adjust myself to the regimentation which, while I dislike it, I realize is necessary to a military unit.

My second reason is: I believe firmly that I, personally, have a better opportunity to make a good living in civilian life. I also know that many of the men in the service are not as fortunate as I in this respect.

Thirdly, I desire more of a home life than what I have in the Marine Corps. In other words, I want to stay at home and stop wandering around. I think this reason is the cause of most men leaving the service.

I would like to make it plain that I am not leaving because I am not allowed to eat at the same table with the staff NCOs and officers. I hardly think that it was the custom for the men in the ranks of the Roman legions to eat at the same table with Caesar.

There is only one thing about the Marine Corps which is perhaps unfair, or at least, so it seems to me. That is, the present way rates are given out. It seems to me as if there are many



men who are held at the same rate and see other men with less time and, in some cases, less intelligence, rated over them for no better reason than a difference in their M. O. S. numbers. Perhaps this situation is being remedied. It seems to me that it should be.

I am leaving the Marine Corps with no bitterness toward it, but with some regret. I have met many staff NCOs and officers whom I did not like but I have never met one I did not respect.

I do not consider the six years I have spent in the Corps as lost or wasted. Many of the small courtesies and acts of conduct practiced in the Marine Corps will be of help to me in civilian

Corp. Oral G. Hyten Hingham, Mass.

• The above-printed letters represent some of the comments we have received concerning Corp. John J. Ivanhoe's "Open Letter" which appeared in the November issue. Set. Jake Ezell's letter was the only one received which agreed with Ivanhoe. We will be pleased to print further comments on the pros and cons of the question.-Ed.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 59)



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## BULLETIN BOARD

#### Second Marine Division Association Formed

HE attention of all Second Marine Division veterans is called to the formation of the Division Association:

"To band together in fellowship those who have honorably served in the Second Marine Division and to preserve the bond of comradeship between those in the service and those who have returned to civilian life."

Under the leadership of Lieutenant General Julien C. Smith, USMC, Retd., division commander at Tarawa, a group of Marines in Washington, D.C., have recently formed the Association and are taking steps to enroll all interested division veterans. Plans are also being made for a reunion of the Division Association during 1950.

Men who served in or with the Second Marine Division during the war years are invited to join the Association now.

Send your name, address, and yearly dues of two dollars to the Secretary-Treasurer, Second Marine Division Association, Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps, Washington 25, D.C.

#### Armed Forces Day

OMMITTEES of all the branches of the Armed Services are preparing plans for the observance of the first Armed Forces Day to be held May 20, 1950. In a memorandum to the service secretaries, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson has suggested that: "Pending completion of the plans for the proposed 'Armed Force's Day' observance...no large scale maneuvers. exercises, or speaking engagements by general officers and key officials, be planned during the period 14-21 May."

#### Fleet Marine Force Units Leave Guam

REMOVAL of the Fleet Marine Forces in Guam to California bases early in this year has been completed by the Navy Department. The only Marines now remaining on Guam are those of the security forces.

Approximately 2000 men comprising the reinforced 3rd Infantry Battalion, Fifth Regiment, First Marine Division and Marine Fighter Squadron 218, were involved in the move which was made for economy reasons.

The infantry battalion rejoined its parent organization, the First Marine Division, at Camp Pendleton. Calif. The air unit joined the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing at El Toro.

In addition, the 5th Base Depot, FMF, which is completing post war roll-up activities will be sent to Barstow, Calif.

## BULLETIN BOARD

#### CLARIFICATION OF BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR QUARTERS

THE new pay bill reads in part: "For the purpose of determining entitlement to basic allowance for quarters, an enlisted member in pay grade E-4 (with less than 7 years service), E-3, E-2, and E-1 will be considered at all times as a member without dependents."

Accordingly, enlisted Marines of sergeant rate (with less than 7 years service) and below are entitled to basic allowance for quarters, ONLY when assigned to duty at stations where government quarters (barracks space) are not available for them.

#### Applications For NSL Insurance

A PPLICATIONS for National Service Life Insurance which must be accompanied by a medical examiner's report will not be accepted by the Veterans' Administration if the medical examiner's report is dated more than 31 days prior to the date of the application.

#### Applications for Schools

T is desired that applications for enlisted personnel requesting assignment to the following courses, be received by Headquarters, Marine (a) AIPCEPATTER.

(a) AIRCRAFT ENGINEERING AND MAIN-TENANCE—Class convening July, 1950. Applicants must be qualified in accordance with Marine Corps Memorandum No. 28-49.

(b) MARINE AVIATION SUPPLY (AD-VANCED)—Class convening July. 1950. Applicants must be staff sergeants or above with primary MOS 3064, 3068, or 3069 with GCT 100 and MAT or PA 100. Men interested must be high school graduates and have two years to serve under present contract or extension thereof.

#### Headquarters, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific to Move

Pacific, presently located at Camp Catlin on the Island of Oahu, to Marine Barracks, Naval Base, Pearl Harbor.

Camp Catlin, which is to be deactivated on or about the 1st of April, will be turned over to the Commandant of the 14th Naval District with the usual recovery clause, as currently surplus to Marine Corps needs.

Enforced economy measures are responsible for the move.

by Sgts. William Milhon and Photos by TSgt. James Galloway James Thompson Leatherneck Staff Photographe

Leatherneck Staff Writers

# NGBO

Sea Duty Indoctrination (Enlisted) is a snapping-in course for adventurers. Graduates of sea school have the same basic duties as the Continental Marines



Pfc Walter Moore, enroute to Marine Barracks, seeks directions from the gate sentry. This station, nearly a century old, will be his home for the four busy weeks

turning a boot Marine loose on one of its vessels. It wouldn't look good to have a Marine lost aboard ship. (This could happen very easily in the labyrinth of passageways which form the streets of our floating forts.) Nor would it be advisable to hand a recruit a weapon he doesn't understand; nor to assign him to specialized duties that are over his head.

A short, basic, snapping-in course is necessary. The official designation is "Sea Duty Indoctrination (Enlisted)" but everyone calls it sea school. There are two sea schools available to Marines. West Coast men go to MCRDep San Diego. On the Eastern seaboard the men go to Marine Barracks, Naval Shippard, Portsmouth, Va.

There is no room for an eight-ball in a sea-going detachment. Aboard ship every man must haul his own freight. And since it takes only one dope-off to foul up the whole outfit, Marines for sea detachments are carefully selected.

The first screening takes place in boot camp. After the recruit announces that he's hot to go for travel and adventure, his DI certifies that he doesn't have two left feet. The man must be able to make the weight (130 lbs.), the height

TURN PAGE



VERY man hears the call of the sea. It's in our blood, a heritage from the line of rugged adventurers who founded this country. It's the urge to go fast and far away that comes alike to the clodhopping farm boy and the kid in the slums. Generally it wears itself out; the farm lad sticks to his milking and the city boy gets a job in the pool hall. But a man born with itching feet and a lust for high adventure hears the compelling call of the sea forever. If he has money, he can take a high school course in French and a pile of illustrated guide books and become a tourist. If he's broke, he can join the Marine Corps and go to sea school . .

The new boot is mildly surprised to learn that he can't go to sea fresh out of recruit training. He begins to suspect that the recruiting sergeant sold him a bill of goods. It's not that. The Navy has a certain natural reluctance about



Marine Barracks' sergeant major accepts Pfc Moore's orders. From there it's topside to the sea school quarters—first stop on the road leading to the sea

#### SPRINGBOARD (cont.)

(5'-8"), and give the proper answers to the classification interviewer. The classification man judges the boot's general appearance, his neatness and military bearing. The questions asked are very simple: their main purpose is to find out if the boot can speak up for himself without stuttering, as he may be assigned to orderly duty later. After the recruit survives this inspection, he can begin dreaming of the Place Pigalle or the grass skirts. He's ready for sea school.

Portsmouth, Va., our oldest sea school, has been supplying sea-going Marine replacements since 1871. The original red-brick barracks is still standing, as sturdy as the day the keel was laid. The students will live there for four fast moving weeks. Portsmouth can handle two platoons of 20 men each during the training period.

Recruits who had cherished a dopey desire to get rid of their M-1 rifles and the troop and stomp are in for a shock. The first thing they get at Portsmouth is a M-1. As for drilling, one Pfc summed it up in this way: "The main requirement for sea school is a strong pair of big feet." Each morning between 0800 and 0900 the compound echoes with the strident voice of the DI. The sea cadets learn exhibition drill, griping about it, but secretly proud of their slick marching precision. (They're in big demand for parades and ceremonies around Norfolk )

The rifle is for drill purposes only. Unless the sea-going Marine is taking part in a ceremony, his weapon is the .45 caliber automatic pistol. In four weeks that .45 will become a part of him. He'll handle it like an expert and be able to clean it in his sleep. "Raised pistol does not mean holding the end of the barrel under the chin." If it takes a reaming out to put this point over to the cadets, Technical Sergeant Andy J. Bays, chief instructor, has the gear.

The students get additional weapons training at Dam Neck, Va., 30 miles from Portsmouth at the U.S. Fleet Air Defense Training Center. They absorb the basic training on the 20-mm. and antiaircraft guns and wind up the week of practice firing by clobbering plane-towed sleeve targets and radio controlled (drone) planes. They get a kick out of this. (The electric-eye machine guns around Norfolk take in more nickels than the pin ball machines.) This AA course is actually just for snapping-in. Aboard ship the Marines will practice tracking almost every day. One corporal, who had just made port, said with pardonable exaggeration: "Our CO had us tracking around the clock. We tracked flotsam, jetsam, sea gulls, anything that floated. He seemed to think even the white caps had wings!"

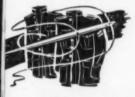
The Navy doesn't expect the men to have to swim home. In the old days it



Sea-dogs are famous for shined shoes and sharp creases. A mirrorless DI wants to see his image in that shoeshine



Senior Instructor Andy Bays snaps in a couple of lads on types of vessels they must know before joining the fleet



Marines aboard ship will stand guard in blues. They draw two sets of dress uniforms and keep Sam the Tailor busy

would have been impossible, anyhow. Most sailors couldn't swim a stroke. Today the order is that every man will swim. If he can't do it with his hands and feet he'd better grow fins by the numbers. In boot camp, a recruit gets his second class swimmer's rating by swimming 50 yards. Sea school instructors want first class swimmers. To satisfy them, a man must swim 100 yards using four different strokes. Trainees must jump off a 20 ft. high board, strip their trousers, and make floats of them in the Abandon Ship drill; surface diving, paddling 25 yards holding a simulated rifle above water, all the details of combat swimming, make this the favorite course of the school.

The courses range from First Aid to Administration and they're designed to make the men familiar with sea-duty before they ever see a quarterdeck. They learn the bells, signals, and emergency drills. They get a working knowledge of communication systems within the ship and between ships. In Administration they learn the table of organization of the crew (comparable to the TO of a Marine Activity), the naval chain of command and the Marine chain of

command aboard ship. They get the basics of aircraft and ship recognition, and snap-in on the nomenclature of a naval vessel. It takes weeks for the new soldier-of-the-sea to know his way thoroughly around a ship. Diagrams and charts will give him an idea of the lash-up, all that he'll need to know at first. (Comedians tell this one about a carrier of the Midway class when it was first commissioned: A Pfc reporting aboard to the officer of the deck was told to take his gear below to the Marine compartment. He was not provided with a guide so he struck out on his own. After a decent time interval he was reported AWOL and given up for lost. Three weeks later, he showed up on mess duty wearing a sailor's uni-

This story is undoubtedly an exaggeration. The Pfc probably was not lost for more than two weeks. However every new man of the ship's guard detachment lives in fear for a couple of days, afraid he'll take a wrong turn and miss a muster.

The trainees snap in on the ships at the Norfolk shippard. They tour the vessels with the guards of the day acting as guides. In their off duty hours the students have a tendency to hang around these vessels and dream about foreign liberty.

The naval terminology comes easily to the men. In fact the entire 105 hours of classroom work come easily. The students live in a state of excitement, waiting for the big day when they will be assigned to a ship. They become saturated with history. Ask any of the students what U.S. ship carried the first full complement of Marines and he'll not only tell you that it was the USS Hartford, he'll drag you down to the dock to show it to you. On the way down to the ship he'll give you the full tourist's snow job: the number of Marines aboard the Hartford when she sailed, how many came back, the CO of the detachment, winding it up proudly with the fact that "-The Hartford was Admiral Farragut's flagship in the battle of Mobile Bay.

Another item of historical interest is a coincidence in names. The very first



It's a proud moment for those neophyte salts when the Officer in Charge breaks out diplomas. Next—who knows? Paris? Marseilles?



been taught in practice and in theory. It takes an average student about three and a half hours to answer all of the questions.

Sea school isn't a grind, however. The trainees are interested in what they're doing. They're eager beavers. That makes it easy. They aren't restricted to the area, either. Liberty call blows twice a week. Wednesday nights off, and weekends 16:30 Friday to 0530 Monday. Some of the men go to Washington, D.C., or Richmond, Va. Most of the men, just out of Parris Island, catch a ferry to Norfolk and do all right.

The men who complete the final test

Instructor Jack Smith detail strips a .45 pistol. Students must familiarize themselves with all parts of this arm

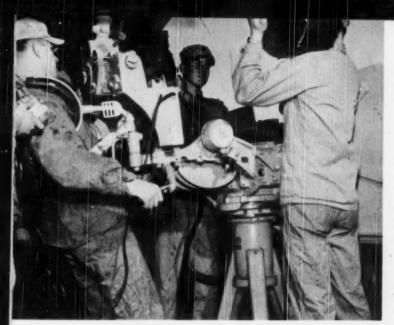
"Look sharp, Marine," says SSgt. Bill Martin. His men will be ready for the captain's inspection on graduation day

commanding officer of the Marine Barracks at Portsmouth was Major George R. Graham. The present CO is Colonel C. B. Graham, no relation.

The sea school had no definite beginning. There were 81 men in the first Marine detachment there. Ships docking at Norfolk needed replacements and got them from the Marine Barracks, The turn over of personnel became greater, and training of the men on the base became specialized. The sea school just grew out of necessity and was in existence before it had a name.

Captain E. H. Haffey, USMC, and his crew of four Marine instructors make sure their students get the full treatment in the short time allotted for basic indoctrination. Graduation depends on the final exam. The examination covers everything the students have





Moore takes his place as loader in a twin 20-mm. gun crew. Students practice at Dam Neck, Virginia, firing and cleaning 20-mm. and 40-mm. antiaircraft guns

the orderly accompanys the skipper ashore in a foreign port: a duty call to the local embassy, or a dull business matter, but there's always the chance that a routine trip will turn into a sea story involving glamorous and evotic habes.

Our web-footed soldiers-of-the-sea are a proud outfit. They are a small group so far as percentages go—service at sea is no longer the paramount interest of the Corps as it was in 1775 when the Continental Congress set forth this resolution: "Resolved that two battalions of Marines be raised . . That particular care be taken that no persons be appointed to officers or enlisted in said battalions but such as are good seamen or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve with advantage at sea when required . . ."

Our sea school graduates today are performing essentially the same tasks as the rugged, ragged, adventurers of the 18th Century. Tradition to seagoing Marines is simply routine of duty. Being on the rolls of a sea detachment is their 20th Century passport to adventure.

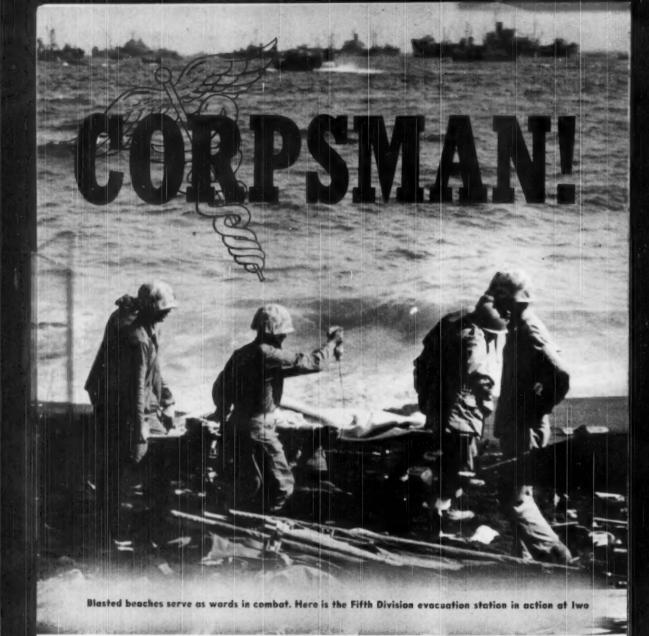
satisfactorily are sent to the sea duty pool. They'll stay there for less than a week before assignment. They spend the last few days squaring away their gear, getting their extra set of blues tailored and otherwise preparing for the big day.

No one bothers to learn a foreign language. The men don't even have the little basic handbooks. One highly literate Marine gave a valid reason for this. "There are," he said, quoting his encyclopedia, "2796 languages spoken on this planet. Forty-six main ones. Suppose I study Basic French—I might wind up on that slow boat to China. Besides," and he grinned, "if things really get basic all I'll have to do is point."

All the Marines in the pool will draw general assignments at first. They'll be guards. Specialized duties come later. Orderly duty is the choicest plum of all, but the requirements for the job are pretty rough. It takes a very alert, sharp, neat and courteous Marine to make the grade. The responsibilities of an orderly are heavy, but according to first hand reports, the extra hours spent in pressing trousers, shining shoes, and plain worrying are worth it. Often



Captain E. H. Haffey presents Moore with his diploma. It won't be long until those dreams of adventure are fulfilled



THE pleasant young fellow made his way slowly through the squad bay. As he passed from man to man he extended his hand to each Marine and paused to exchange a few words. The remarks, which included mention of such names as "Vec-akekuss" and "J'Ville," were mild compared to the usual ration of razzing

these guys heaped on one another. The customary boisterousness was missing —Dog Company was saying "so long" to an old shipmate.

One of the company officers came in and, after "tenshun" and "carry on," stepped over to the young man in the Navy dress blue uniform.

"Doc, I hear you're being transferred

to a cruiser. We're sure going to miss you—you're just like one of the family!"

This scene is often repeated when corpsmen are transferred from Fleet Marine Force units. It is to the credit of most of them that they are adaptable and can, after some indoctrination, function efficiently "in the field"—as



No matter where the FMF sets up business there is always a Sailor along to repair the casualties

two great wars and on many expeditions. Tables of Organization authorize a complement of them for practically every type of Fleet Marine Force unit. Wherever your orders may take you, medical assistance won't be far—nor those inevitable "shots." It is possible that you may go to strange places and find the doc's already there! It actually happened to a unit of the Sixth Marines in World War I. The Medical Section had moved out ahead of the front lines, set up an Aid Station and waited for business!

Upon graduation from basic Hospital Corps School, the fledgling doc is assigned to general ward duty in a naval hospital where he learns the practical application of most of the things he was taught in the classroom. After several months of this, during which time he will see service in several different types of wards, he will probably be ordered to sea duty—"sea duty" sometimes being the Fleet Marine Force. As a Marine corpsman he will find that life is a combination of Sailor and Soldier activity plus many "angles."

TURN PAGE



Pfc T. E. Buckley gets a charge of cascara and mineral oil, commonly known as "black and white," from HM3 K. E. Binks. Ward watches are among initial duties

well as in hospitals, at sea and in the air. Every Marine is familiar with the fact that hospital corpsmen are "swabbies" and usually accepts those he is acquainted with, just as Dog Company's Aid Man was accepted, as "part of the family."

Hospital corpsmen of the Navy have served with the Marine Corps through

#### CORPSMAN! (cont.)

He will find that he is governed by Marine Corps Regulations as well as Navy Regs, and in most cases that it's good duty. (In spite of normal, good natured growling, many old timers, when due for sea going, request duty with the Marines.)

Upon reporting to a Marine division for the first time, the Sailor will undergo a special course of "field" training if the division is operating a Medical Field Service School. In lieu of this school the medical battalion, in which the same curriculum is covered, may serve to indoctrinate the rookie. In some cases, however, he is assigned directly to an organization where he will learn the ropes in a battalion or regimental medical section.

Commander George Donabedian, Medical Corps. U.S.N., Commanding Officer of the 2nd Medical Battalion, Second Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N.C., says, "The mission of the Navy doctor and hospital corpsman is to keep as many men at as many guns for as many days as possible. In combat the Aid Man's primary concern is to render first aid and evacuate the patient to a medical section where more detailed treatment can be given by a medical officer. In planning our training program we keep these factors in mind as well as the fact that corpsmen in the field, or in combat, must be as able as the Marines to take care of themselves."

The medical battalion affords training for its personnel in all phases of warfare just as any regular Marine unit is trained. Intense training in professional subjects, general educa-

tional classes and a fair share of troop and stomp appear regularly on the training schedule. (The 2nd Medical Battalion is always militarily sharp enough to earn a high A and I rating.) Although not normally armed, medical battalion corpsmen are taught the manual of arms of the carbine. As a matter of fact, all corpsmen fire the carbine, many shooting "high" Sharpshooter, and some Expert.

In spite of the snappy showing made by some medical units, the Sailors are generally regarded as slightly less military than their Marine colleagues. This (you will pardon the expression, doc) clumsiness is natural in view of the fact that in order to keep abreast of new medical developments, corpsmen must devote most of their time to work or training in the dispensary. Constant professional training is necessary because all corpsmen are responsi-



HM3 E. L. Aresnault treats Corp. E. R. Van Hook for a minor complaint. If injury is serious a medical officer is consulted





Pfc W. W. Lowry getting a tetanus shot administered by HM3 J. Ciemierowski, HM1 E. P. Morris checks men off roster



HM3 W. L. Parris is "striking" to become a dental technician. He watches Lieut. B. Geltzer, (DCR) doing some intricate work



Harried corpsmen, exhausted by battle, tending wounded, give blood plasma to a casualty during the struggle for Iwo

ble for, among other things, the sanitation of their organizational area and are further responsible for such preventive medical measures as the taking of salt tablets to replace vital salt lost during prolonged perspiration and atabrine tablets in malarious areas.

Your company corpsmen or the "battalion chief" gives, or assists the medical officer in giving, lectures on First Aid, Field Sanitation, and Venereal Disease, physical examinations and hypodermic inoculations, more familiarly known as "shots." Some of these Medical Department's functions may seem unnecessary at times but a little intelligent thought usually dispells this notion. Some indication that the various preventive measures practiced by the Medical Department are effective is the fact that the year 1948 was the healthiest year for Sailors and Marines since medical records have been kept—a stretch of 100 years.

Along the way doc may have acquired for himself a "degree' because

of specialization in one of the many fields covered by the broad and inclusive title "Hospital Corps." To be desiginated as a medical technician of any sort the corpsman must work and study in a particular branch far beyond the demands of his basic duties. This usually takes place at a school in one of the larger naval hospitals, and at his own request. The speciality system resembles the MOS classification. The completion of certain studies pertinent to field work, such as advanced sanitation, topography, field tactics, etc., and service in a Fleet Marine Force unit for a required time, entitles the student corpsman to the designation of Medical Field Technician.

Dental corpsmen, who get around just about as much as the "hospital" variety of corpsmen, are now responsible to the dental officers and are in their own, separate corps.

About 40 per cent of all hospital corpsmen are recognized as technicians and these specialists are distributed with the Fleet Marine Force, ships, and shore stations so that their special qualifications will be available when needed. Included in this group are: specialists in x-ray, pharmacy, bacteriology, medical record clerks, x-ray machine repairmen, and men specially trained in the fields of submarine and aircraft medicine, medical photography and psychiatric work. It can be seen then that doe is not always a "pill roller" or simply a band-aid and aspirin man.

Known through the years as Loblolly





Front line evacuation at Iwo was done in the teeth of heavy Japanese fire. The stations close by were being constantly ripped by mortar and small arms fire

Hospital Corps' part in World War II, "is a record not equaled anywhere, anytime."

From a few hundred at the turn of the century, the "doctor's mates" grew in number until they reached the wartime peak in 1945 of more than 116,000 enlisted men and women. The training program for this mass of people was in the hands of officers of the Hospital Corps who were nearly all ex-enlisted corpsmen themselves. Considerable credit is due for this big war job for personnel-were invariably trained well enough to surprise Medical Corps Reserve doctors with their knowledge and efficiency.

Captain E. R. Hering, Medical Corps, U.S.N., a former division medical officer, writing for the latest edition of the corpsman's "bible" (The Hospital Corps Handbook) says, "duties of the hospital corpsman in combat with the landing force indicate the need for resourceful, well-trained, and courageous individuals." These traits have apparently been present in most of the corpsmen attached to Fleet Marine

Boys, Baymen, Surgeon's Stewards, Apothecaries, and in recent years as Pharmacist's Mates, the docs became "Hospital Corpsman" in 1948 and now the rating badge with the familiar red cross is being replaced by one with the caduceus - the symbol of medicine which has come down from mythology. The first "loblolly" was recruited for duty on the Frigate Constellation at about the same time that Congress established the Marine Corps. The Hospital Corps was not established, however, until 51 years ago. The strength of this Corps is set at three and a half per cent of the enlisted strength of the Marine Corps and Navy.

The wartime Table of Organization for a division provides for hospital corpsmen for each company or battery in addition to those assigned to battalion aid stations and to regimental medical sections. The battalion set-up will serve as an intermediate aid station in combat, or as a field dispensary in bivouac. The regimental medical section is equipped to assist the battalion medical groups but would, under most circumstances, be concerned mostly with administration. The division medical battalion has extensive and mobile facilities which are used to back up the smaller medical units. Collecting casualties and administering more detailed care and surgery are their general function.

In the medically unenlightened years when our country was young, the wounded and sick were considered and Resourceful, well-trained and courageous corpsmen are needed

by landing teams in combat

treated as liabilities. This harsh attitude was logical since knowledge and facilities for sick care were scarce. Constant and human concern for the sick and wounded by military and civilian medical people has brought steady progress, however, and few fields show as much advancement as the field of medicine since the turn of the century. In World War I approximately 11 of each 100 casualties died from their wounds. This rate was lowered in World War II to three deaths in each 100 wounded. This high recovery rate among naval personnel is attributed to blood plasma, almost immediate first aid, rapid evacuation, major surgery near the front lines and well trained, quick-acting hospital corps-

In a special "blanket" commendation, then Secretary of the Navy, the late James V. Forrestall gave a "well done" which, in part, stated that the Force units. That they were courageous individuals is proved by the high number of citations and decorations awarded for outstanding performance of duty in combat.

The corpsmen who participated in the historic battles of Chateau-Thierry, Soissons, St. Mihiel and Belleau Woods became the most highly decorated military unit of World War I. Through the years, 18 of them have won the Congressional Medal of Honor, seven for heroic exploits in the last war. The nation's greatest honor is not come by easily, nor is it necessary to be engaged in aggressive combat, but some of the citations accompanying the Medals of Honor picture corpsmen fighting the enemy with one hand while trying to save a life with the other. While it is true that these supposedly "non-combatants" have unusually dramatic circumstances under which to perform their wartime duties, it might be mentioned that in at least one campaign, Iwo Jima, their percentage rate of mortality was higher than that among the fighting troops!

Posthumously awarded the Medal of



The Navy's flying ambulances arrived at Iwo as soon as the strip was ours

Honor, William D. Halyburton gave his life in shielding a wounded Marine; John H. Willis was administering blood plasma with one hand and returning Japanese hand grenades with the other when one exploded as he tried to hurl it back at the enemy. More fortunate, Robert E. Bush lived after being badly wounded fighting off a hostile attack with pistol and carbine, administering life-giving blood plasma meanwhile. Often in the news accounts of decoration ceremonies we read that the corpsmen heroes pay homage to other brave men whom they admire and respect-the United States Marines.

Far from detracting from the combat reputation earned by Marines, the Navy men have added more, glorious pages to battle histories by their own exploits. Almost everyone knows that one of the flag raisers on Iwo Jima was a hospital corpsmen. Hollywood has filmed "sands of Iwo" (Leatherneck, Nov. 1949) and many Marine veterans were on hand to "star" in familiar roles. Also on hand to re-enact his part, along with the other surviving flag raisers, was John Bradley, the corpsman.

Sometimes faced with problems for which they are not specifically trained, and for which proper equipment is not available, corpsmen are, of necessity, versatile and resourceful. Improvise is an important word in the doc's yocabularly-especially in the field where it is impossible to have many of the cefinements at hand. These enhisted men, along with officers of the Medical, Dental and Chaplain's Corp, were able to render much comfort and assistance to fellow prisoners of war. This helpfulness under extremely trying and adverse conditions was due as much to their initiative and bellity to improvise as to their professional knowledge.

Delivering babies and performing surgical operations are not part of the average day's work, but many a corpsman has been called upon by circumstances to double for the doctor in these emergencies. No corpsman is going to play at being "Young Doctor Kildare" for, while no one will quibble over who saves a life, procedures as serious as "operating" and the giving of certain medications are expressly forbidden to corpsmen under any but the most extreme circumstances.

Hard working groups of corpsmen, medical officers and officers of the Medical Services Corps constantly carry od medical research projects to eliminate as many as possible of the threats to the health and safety of service men and, consquently, all mankind. When king with an organization of the Marine Corps their day's work may consist of observing the entrails of an anopheles mosquito under a microscope in an effort to learn a little more about the transmission of malaria, or the day may be spent in an attempt to streamline one of the packs of medical gear with which corpsmen are always seen in the boondocks.

Although preventive measures are taken religiously and victory after victory ever disease and accident is won, there will always be the need for trained medical personnel in the inevitable instances of sickness and injury—some of which, we acknowledge, will always be with us.

END



Mortality rate at Iwo Jima was higher among the corpsmen than combat troops. Leatherneck's Photo Director, Lou Lowery, was hit just after making this picture

#### by SSgt. Robert W. Tallent

Leatherneck Staff Writer

AT THE home of amphibious acumen, Marine Corps Schools Quantico, they collect athletic trophies, titles, and awards like a recruit collects blisters. Currently they are aiming at the All-Navy baseball title, the one that got away last year at Pearl Harbor. Mere Atlantic championship is not enough for the big Virginia team.

Prospects look "better than medium" according to manager Bill Kohler who is filling Hap Spuhler's spot this season. Some of the tophands have been transferred. Shortstop, Ralph Russo and coach, Bill Gulley, have gone to Camp Pendleton; pastureman, "Rusty" Gates has been discharged. But many of last year's diamond journeymen are still around; catcher, Don Niedringhaus; infielders Cal Killeen and Will Hixson, and pitchers Frank Wall and "Tex" Bragg are a few who have suited up again.

Although no Quantico player has ever been openly accused of underconfidence in his team, "Tex" Bragg is unquestionably the most optimistic about the squad's chances for '50. He is so sure of making the trip September 17th for the All-Navy playoffs that he is carrying a guide book of Pensacola around in his pocket.

Curiously enough, "Tex" hails from the Lone Star State. He's a Southerner of the ole fraternity. Every rebel is his brother. Well, there's at least one lad from the old and deep south who would like to see Bragg at the play-offs tooas a spectator. First Lieutenant Elmer Zorn is hard at work in Lejeune's ball orchard. He doesn't carry around a grudge against Quantico's amiable Texan; in a way they have a good deal in common. Both are skillful moundsmen and have passed quite a few summers on the veldt if not the velvet of various ball stadiums around the country. While Bragg packs around a little more beef than Zorn, there is still a surprising resemblance between the two when they are togged out in their working duds. The main reason Zorn doesn't want to see Bragg in Florida this September is that the lieutenant is at the helm of the Lejeune nine this

There has never been a Marine baseball team manager who wouldn't give half the sports equipment allotment in the local recreation fund to beat MCS, if pressed they'd probably be willing to toss in the bat boy and six or eight plugs of chawin' to boot. This year Zorn would gladly up the ante. Defeating Quantico has become something of a personal issue with him. It all started Diamond



SSgt. Robert W. Tallent, easy-going, 27, unmarried, is a native of San Diego. He skipped boot camp. When he quit Oakland High to go on active duty with San Francisco's 12th In-

fantry Reserve Battalion, he was shortcircuited to Guadalcanal. Overseas duty in New Zealand, Guam, and Tsingtao has given Tallent a good background for Marine Corps writing.

His first literary effort, a complaint to the commanding general, won immediate recognition. Tallent was removed from his job (foreman of a crew of janitors) and put in charge of the station newspaper. With the TTU later he became editor of the North China Marine.

Before coming to Leatherneck, Tallent was editor of the San Diego Chevron.

Tallent admits to no ambition but, like all sports writers, he is a frustrated athlete. Fortunately for *Leatherneck* no coach was interested in a left-handed second baseman.

back three seasons ago when Zorn was running the Parris Island team.

The Islanders had a good year. They won 52 games against 15 losses; it was something of an individual triumph for the man from Ashburn, Ga., too. Elmer piled up a mound record of nine wins and two losses; he had a batting record of .375. PI was so good they entered the Atlantic playoffs against Quantico.

But, as they say in horsehide parlance, "You can't win 'em all." Regrettably enough for Zorn and the Recruit Depot's varsity, practically the same thing happened the following year. The Virginians walked off with the marbles again.

Being turned back twice by the same outfit sort of rankled the lieutenant. He is a slow-talking, laconic person anyway, but by the end of '48 he was more quiet than usual. This wasn't caused by any inner dejection, he was engrossed in plotting ways and means whereby the Islander's could lower the boom on the Quanticos the next year. He had talked the existing powers into ordering a new ball park constructed. A sort of local farm system was established so that no possible playing material would be overlooked. More experienced hands were showing up for practice and it looked as though Elmer was due for a good year. He was ordered to a new duty station.

There weren't many dull moments when he reported in at his new post—Palestine—the two volatile factions kept the Marines with the military observers mission on their toes all the time. When things subsided he was glad to leave, neither of the two sides were interested or had the haziest idea of the fundamentals of baseball.

Back in the States he was ordered to Camp Lejeune. When the Camp's sports leaders started shopping around for a new baseball mentor for this year several officers, including General Hart, remembered Zorn's record with the PI Elmer Zorn, after two seasons with the Pl nine, will try to salt away the Navy's horsehide title for Lejeune this year



Fresh baseball tools, a new ball pasture, plus lately arrived mentor, Lt. Elmer Zorn may put the big North Carolina team in the running at Pensacola this year

team. He was given the job of building up what at this time amounts to an entirely new team.

Service coaches whether they are molding football, baseball or basketball teams are a notably taciturn group of men. It is seldom that one ever opens up and cuts loose with what he has on his mind. Most of them would rather be ridden out of camp on a spavined fullback than openly admit that they like their jobs. As a rule they have considerably more problems to plague them than their collegiate opposites. Transfers, maneuvers and the temperament of individual players are constant harrassing factors which can age a coach before his time. Recruiting sergeants always inform prospective boots of the Corps' hi-powered sports program but they don't scout incoming material too closely, as a result military coaches spend more time developing players than do college mentors.

There are other drawbacks; for instance, after securing practice at around 5:30 in the evening Zorn goes over to his office in the tank area picks up all the papers which need immediate attention, and drives 26 miles to his home. After dinner he generally works an hour or more on the business of a tank company executive officer. This doesn't exactly make Mrs. Zorn the happiest spouse in all North Carolina. Luckily she likes baseball. The Zorn's are newly married. She is from Canada. They met while he was on the Palestine assignment. She was with the Canadian mission and cupid got an assist through government channels when she was reassigned to Lake Success after the mission in Palestine was completed.

On the more salubrious side of serv-

ice coaching is the fact that there are no alumni associations around demanding reasons for a defeat, or why this athlete was benched. Generally speaking the military duties of players do not permit as heavy a practice schedule as university teams shoot at, but this is offset by carrying a heavier playing schedule during the year.

"I believe players on Marine nines, under our expanded sport program, have more opportunities to advance themselves toward professional careers than men playing semi-pro or small

college ball," Zorn says.

He bases this theory on his own experience, he started playing ball 15 years ago. After finishing high school he spent a couple of seasons playing industrial ball in the Alabama State League then he entered the University of Georgia. Two weeks after his graduation in July '43, he joined the service and progressed through boot camp, O.C.S. and R.O.C. Shortly after receiving his commission he went overseas. He returned Stateside in '46.

Nominally a pitcher, Zorn can handle the outfield jobs as well, carrying a 375 B.A. which makes him a desirable man to have in the top part of any

lineup.

The division-men have gotten off to a late start. First call to practice did not go for almost two weeks after the other Marine clubs started shaking down. This disadvantage was overcome by utilizing all three of the Camp's diamonds for the early-season workouts. Zorn is concentrating on building up a powerful offensive club. An adherent to the theory that hitters are born not made, he devoted many hours to observing the natural batting style of tryout candidates earlier last month.

There will be a new diamond for home games and plans call for the installation of big concrete stands with arcs for night games. Zorn believes night games are ideal for service teams, more fanf are able to view the contests, so a big percentage of Lejeune's home meets on the 90-game schedule will be played under the lamps.

Starting cold in a new coaching spot and trying to come up with a champion team the first year is like playing Russian roulette with a flame thrower,

it can be done but .

It is possible that the Lejeune coach will make the grade this year; he has a lion's share of Marines to choose from. The Camp team always drawa the enthusiastic support of all the officers and men down there; so these items coupled with Elmer Zorn's ability and experience give the North Carolina varsity a high rung on the ladder toward the All-Navy title for 1950.

# PORTREX PREP

HEN the men of the Army's Third Infantry
Division stormed ashore at Vieques Island last
month in Operation PorTrEx the amphibious
technique of the Marine Corps went with them. Last
year when the operation was planned, the Department
of Defense selected the Army unit for the assault—but
on the shoulders of the Marines in Troop Training Unit,
Atlantic, fell the responsibility of converting the Army
men into khaki-colored facsimiles of Marines.

The 15,000 men of the division were trained at the

by Sgt. Frank X. Goss

Leatherneck Staff Writer

#### A Marine training unit coaches and sets stage for Army infantry at Vieques beachhead

TTU base at Little Creek, Va. The Marines of TTU, their experience jointly embracing every Pacific beachhead of World War II, trained the men in three 5000-man groups. The training program established for the soldiers represented the largest task undertaken in the history of the Troop Training Unit.

Early in January the Army moved in on the Atlantic Fleet's sprawling amphibious base for their training stint. Norfolk, ordinarily a Navy town, began to see a lot of khaki uniforms—and the Navy's Shore Patrol was joined by Army Military Police for its periodic cruises on East Main Street.

The training program established for the soldiers followed the same format as that used so successfully in indoctrinating Reserve and Regular Marines in the basic principles of amphibious warfare, and in training Army Cadets and Navy Midshipmen for Operation CaMid, the yearly combined operation maneuver staged by the students of the two great service academies.

Officers and enlisted men attended the same lectures and demonstrations. The course began with an introductory lecture on naval customs and terminology in which the instructors in TTU's Basic Amphibious School outlined the overall picture of the training and explained the necessity of knowing, for example, the meaning of Aft, Starboard, Scuttlebutt and Head. During the eight training days allotted for each group, lectures and demonstrations were given in the historical background and basic principles of amphibious operations, lashing and lowering of equipment, naval gunfire support, air support and airborne operations in connection with amphibious operations and an introduction to amphibious reconnaissance. Practical training was achieved through the extensive use of mock-ups and the soldiers' actual performance under the close supervision of Marine instructors. The TTU demonstration unit is a select group which would be an asset to any organization. It is composed of enlisted Marines of the School staff-all of them staff sergeants or above. They showed the students the proper way to go over the side of a ship, down a cargo net and into the landing craft. They simulated the conduct of the boat team as



A TTU Instructor (squatting, center) notes discrepancies in correct landing procedure. Faults are analyzed at a recapitulation attended by all hands

it loaded, reached the rendezvous area, crossed the line of departure and, finally, hit the beach.

Later, the soldiers practiced climbing nets, entering and leaving landing craft, and lashing and lowering equipment in the dry mock-ups in the TTU training area. When the men had achieved a familiarity with the problems of shipto-shore movement—and a proficiency great enough to solve them—their training ground became a decommissioned attack transport, the USS Burleson, survivor of the atomic bomb experiments at Bikini.

The Burleson, moored at Little Creek's docks, provided an authentic shipboard setting for the troops. The men boarded her on the starboard side, from the dock, and left almost immediately from five debarkation stations on the port side. LCVPs from Naval

Beach Group Two transported the troops from the Burleson's sides to the rendezvous area where they assumed wave formations and hit the beach in a maneuver lacking little more than exploding shells for reality.

The wet net practice aboard the Burleson was supervised by Marines who immediately corrected improper procedures as they occurred.

The training at the Basic Amphibious School was primarily a course in individual training. Every soldier, regardless of his rank, had to know how to conduct himself in an amphibious operation and all aspects of the course were aimed at that achievement. Whether a man was an engineer, medic, or rifleman, he had to observe the same rules in going over the side of the ship or going down the ramp of a landing craft: after landing, all life



operation—was taught selected Army personnel at a five-week course of instruction at TTU's Transport Quartermaster school prior to Operation PorTrEx. Each unit, comparable to the size of a battalion, which was involved in the operation detailed an officer and an enlisted man to the school for instruction.

The TQM students learned that loading materiel aboard ship in preparation

and supplies aboard ship-perhaps the most important phase of an amphibious

The TQM students learned that loading materiel aboard ship in preparation for combat on an enemy beach is an exact and exacting science. They learned that the cargo must go aboard in a manner which would permit supplies to leave the ship in the order they were needed on shore. The solution to

Boat team goes down cargo nets into LCVPs below. Marines wearing helmets with white stripes are TTU instructors

jackets were dropped above the highwater mark; no gloves were worn when climbing the nets; the men were taught to grip the vertical strands of the net as they clambered down the side of the ship into the landing craft.

Ship-to-shore movements, especially in the face of enemy fire, carry with them a universal problem which embraces officers and men indiscriminately; hence the necessity of training all ranks together and indoctrinating them with the same subject matter. The Basic Amphibious course offered by TTU gave the students a greater appreciation for the problems of amphibious warfare and, in addition, gave them a solid grounding in the basic techniques of boat handling, wave formations, evacuation of casualties, shore party functions, transport loading, waterproofing of individual equipment and amphibious communications and intelligence.

In addition to the Basic Amphib course the Troop Training Unit conducted a five-day waterproofing course for selected Army personnel prior to

Army men wait for word to go down nets from Burleson. With helmets loosely fastened, each man leads off with left leg onto net. Gloves are not worn

the large scale troop training in January. The course embraced the technique used by Marine organizations to protect vehicles and equipment from damage by salt water during an amphibious landing.

Last November a team of experts from TTU journeyed to Fort Benning. Ga., to conduct a course in Troop Amphibious Staff Planning for selected Army officers. The course covered the higher technical aspects of an amphibious operation; the stress falling on the overall plan of operation as it concerned division, regimental, and battalion COs and their staffs. A short course in the prescribed method of waterproofing tracked vehicles and other transportation equipment was also conducted for the benefit of the Army men.

The technique of loading equipment

the problem of what is to be carried aboard ship is found only in the Transport Quartermaster's careful study of the operation. The students find that intelligence reports must be analyzed to determine the order in which the supplies are loaded. Some of the factors which determine the order of loading are, the strength of the enemy and the number and types of weapons opposing the landing. If, for example, intelligence reports show that the area to be attacked is heavily defended by pillboxes, bazooka ammunition and satchel charges must be immediately available to the attacking troops. If the plan of operation called for a blitzkrieg motorized drive, deep into enemy territory, automotive spare parts and gasoline would be some of the last items to go aboard ship, for they would be called



Army Pfc William A. Geurds gets a few pointers from Marine Sgt. D. Brown, a former scout sniper, now with TTU



for soon after the landing. If no drinking water were available on shore, extra tins of water would have to go ashore with the troops. Every operation brings new problems in loading to the Troop Quartermaster; the TTU school equipped the Army men with the knowledge gained through years of hard-won experience in landing and supplying the men of the Marine Corps.

To most Marines, and possibly to civilians, the Army landing at Vieques appeared to be a considerable accomplishment. In the popular tradition the role of the Army has always been that of the land conqueror; Marines have been accepted by the public as the official "soldiers of the sea" who hit the beach, established a beachhead large

enough for the Army to work from, and waited for the soldiers to come in and finish the job.

But the Army is no stranger to beachheads; it hit the beach at North Africa. Normandy, Sicily, Anzio, and dozens of places in the Pacific. Nor is the Marine Corps totally unfamiliar with extended land operations, as evidenced by the Corps' presence in France during World War I and its land campaigns of the Marianas and Okinawa in the past war.

Early in World War II the Marine Corps undertook the job of training a few Army units in amphibious tactics. Army officers were assigned to Marine Corps technical schools and received the latest amphibious doctrines which had been compiled by Marine Corps experts. The results of years of experiment and training had given the Marine Corps the "know how" and tested doctrines in the field of amphibious warfare; these techniques and tips were passed on to the Army who used them to train its soldiers for the unenviable task of hitting the European beaches.

The training which the Marine Corps gave the Army's Third Infantry Division for the operation last month, was a fulfillment of one of the Marine Corps' responsibilities under the National Security Act. In coordination with the Army and Air Force, the Marine Corps is responsible for the development of tactics, technique and equipment employed by landing forces. The other services have seen fit to leave these developments in the hands of the Marines but the Corps has continued and will continue to make the results of its efforts available to these other services.

The Marine Corps is composed of the world's most highly trained amphibians. If the requirements of a future war call for landings too numerous for the Marines to handle, then soldiers again will receive training from their companion service in the art of amphibious warfare. In the meantime, the introduction to amphibious tactics which the Army received from the Marine Corps and its participation in the amphibious Operation Portrex has given the soldiers a greater appreciation and, at least, a familiarity with the Corps' well-developed specialty.



Individual attention was given each of the 15,000 Army men by TTU Marines. Landing procedure was the dominant point



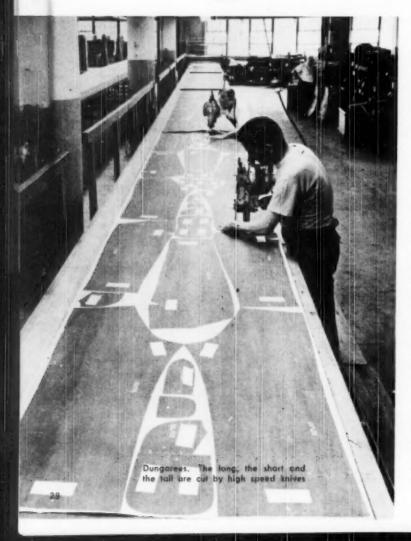
Cold, January water hit the Army men when they came ashore at Little Creek, Va., in final preparation for Portrex

POSTS OF THE CORPS

## PHILADELPHIA DEPOT OF SUPPLIES

Marine Corps' Macys began with one small tent. Now it's a giant seven story mart

by SSgt. Harry Polete



THE demand for the items necessary to equip and maintain a top-notch organization of fighting men is a major responsibility. The venerable—yet relatively unknown-post of the Corps, the Depot of Supplies, at 1100 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa., has the ponderous job of manufacturing, repairing, storing and shipping the bulk of material which keeps the Marine Corps well-dressed and adequately equipped.

Presently commanded by Brigadier General Leonard E. Rea, who has the title of Depot Quartermaster, the Philadelphia Depot of Supplies is the largest logistical establishment of the Marine Corps. It is under the direct military command of the Commandant with this command exercised by the Quartermaster General of the Marine Corps. It's mission includes the procurement, storage and issue of items classified as general supply, and the operation of facilities for the manufacture of items of clothing, and camp and individual equipment.

This organization is also a source of supply for those posts and stations located in the eastern United States, and for the Fleet Marine Force units, posts and stations beyond the continental limits of the United States. Other Marine units, including Marine detachments aboard ships, which may be designated by the Commandant are also supplied by the Philadelphia Depot.

The Depot cannot be called a post of the Corps in the same catagory with Quantico or San Diego. There are no barracks for living quarters, no parade grounds resound to drill commands, and the notes of a bugle are never heard. All personnel assigned here for duty are required to quarter and subsist themselves in Philadelphia. To

defray this expense, married staff NCOs, and married sergeants with seven years service, draw a quarters allowance of \$67.50; unmarried personnel receive \$45. All hands are allowed \$2.25 a day subsistence.

The military roster of the Depot lists the names of 220 enlisted Marines and 53 officers. This number has been increased in recent weeks by the addition of a number of naval personnel, following the merger of the Navy and Marine publicity bureaus. More than 2000 civilians round out the operating force of the Depot and weld its functions into a smoothly geared supplyproduction activity. Many of these civilians have been with the Depot as long as 40 years and constitute a loyal and efficient group whose relations with the Marine Corps have always been amicable.

Until recently the Depot was the topnotch "old soldier's home" of the Marine Corps. However, according to the
Depot sergeant-major, Master Sergeant
A. J. Lembo, most of the men with long
periods of service in Philadelphia have
been rotated to other duties. The few
remaining old-timers are those whom
the Marine Corps finds difficult to
replace in positions of highly technical
skills. Many of these men are in charge
of departments and sections as large
and complex as any modern commercial establishment.

The duties of Marines at the Depot are many and varied. They run the gamut from simple clerking jobs to NCO-in-charge of warehouse storage. automotive repair shops, ordnance repair, and printing shops. The problems of manufacturing, shipping and receiving, laboratory and testing, interdepartmental relations, cost accounting. inventory and stock records, warehousing and the intricate problems of integrating civilian and military personnel demand that the Depot Quartermaster be a business man of specialized executive ability. He, in turn, must demand a high degree of competence from his officers.

Most of the Marines profess a complete satisfaction with their duties. Perhaps this contentment can be traced to the absence of any interior guard duties, or other after-hour duty. With the exception of two Marine officers, civilian guards handle the security of millions of dollars of public property. The consensus is that the Depot of Supplies is good duty.

Historically, the Depot of Supplies presents an interesting story. When the Marine Corps was reorganized on a permanent basis in 1798 at Philadelphia, the first quartermaster, Second Lieutenant Franklin Wharton, had many problems to solve in supplying the basic requirements of a very small



The home of the Corps' Depot of Supplies is located on South Broad Street, Philadelphia. General Rea's offices and administrative units are also here



TSgt. Karl P. Mayer, right, and MSgt. Francis C. Toman are the only Marines in the Depot's carpenter shop. They are building the familiar footlockers

#### DEPOT OF SUPPLIES (cont.)

Corps. He had no semblance of organization to manufacture or purchase the necessary uniforms and equipment. Local sources of supply were scarce and transportation was painfully slow.

Requests were often made of him for uniforms when his stock room-one small tent-resembled old mother Hubbard's cupboard. Commanding officers were often furnished with a description of the current uniform and instructed to procure uniforms for their command from local sources. It was almost impossible to purchase anything to precise specifications and no two groups of Marines in those days were clothed in any semblance of uniformity. The Corps' reputation of being the best dressed fighting men in the world was hardly justified at that time.

By 1804 the Marine Corps had decided to take a hand in the manufacture of its own uniforms. The Secretary of Navy granted authority to the Commandant to secure the necessary tailors for this purpose. A year later he issued the following order:

"That the tailors employed at the Public Works may not suppose the duty to be severe, it is ordered that those working in the shop, or those desiring employment there, shall by steady attention during the rest of the



Steel eyelets are put in the top of seabags with an automatic stamp device and riveting machine. The Depot will produce 6200 of these bags in April

week have Saturday for themselves."
Thus began a period of amicable relationship between the Marine Corps and its civilian employees which has endured. And while the Corps lays claims to no such distinction it would appear that they were among the first advocators of the five-day work week.

Through the years the Depot struggled with the herculean task of providing the best uniforms possible for Marines. Even in the days when the Corps numbered 16,000 men the task of supplying clothing and other items was a large undertaking. Uniforms at one time were farmed out to operators who sewed them in their homes, turning in the finished products once a week. Today the clothing plant turns out everything the Marine wears in its own modern factory, with the exception of shoes, cap frames, underclothing and knit wear. These articles are procured on contract from commercial firms.

Truck tops, awnings, seabags and a wide variety of articles made of canvas are produced at the Depot. Recently they have supplied truck and jeep tops to the Army in Philadelphia, and have in the past manufactured items of clothing for the Navy.

This clothing factory is an interesting and amazing activity. Here are a few production statistics: During the month of April, 14,000 field jackets will be made, with a 99,504 goal for this two-year period. It takes two hours and ten minutes by efficient production line methods to turn out a finished field jacket. This includes taking the material out of storage, cutting into proper shapes and sizes, sewing, and inspection of the finished product.

By the same methods a shirt can be



It takes two hours and ten minutes to "build" a field jacket, M-1943, from raw material to the finished garment. During April 14,000 will be made

made in 25 minutes, and a pair of green trousers takes 45 minutes. In the present two-year production period the Depot will turn out 1,429,304 khaki shirts and 181,820 pairs of green trousers. Seabags manufactured during April will total 6200, with a two-year goal of 145,665. In addition to supplying the present clothing needs of the Corps, the Depot must also maintain stock levels adequate to meet the requirements of any emergency expansion of the Marine Corps.

None of these uniform items are in continuous production. The work load is staggered for efficiency. During certain periods emphasis is placed on shirts, or overcoats, the next month it may be dress uniforms and dungarees. The real or anticipated needs of the Corps, coupled with efficient operation are the guides used to determine the production schedules.

All the operators employed in the clothing factory are civilians, with women in the majority. The few Marines in this department are limited to administrative, warehouse and similar duties.

While the clothing factory is one of the largest, and perhaps most interesting features of the Depot of Supplies, it is just a part of the complex organization. Did you ever wonder where your foot locker (Boxes, Clothing, Barracks W/Tray) came from? The Depot's carpenter shop turns them out by the hundreds each month, with 14,000 due for completion in the current production period—these in addition to packing boxes, mess tables, mess benches and an assorted collection of book chests. Two Marines hold forth among the large number of civilian carpenters employed here.

The double steel lockers to be found in most Marine barracks are run off the production lines in the metal working shop at the rate of 500 a month, in addition to recruiting signboards and other metal items.

All of these activities are located at the Depot's headquarters 1100 South Broad Street. Other activities are located in the Depot's three annexes— 734 Schuylkill Ave., 25th and Locust and Snyder Avenue.

The Schuylkill Avenue Annex houses one of the most modern automotive repair and major overhaul shops along the eastern seaboard. All worn-out vehicles from Marine activities in the eastern half of the United States find their way to this shop. For example: let us assume that Camp Lejeune has sent a worn-out six-by to the Depot for replacement.

This truck is checked in and given a preliminary examination to determine the probable extent of repairs required. The mechanics—all men in this section are Marines— then turn to and completely strip the truck, testing generator, ignition, etc. All worn parts are

replaced as the motor gets the works. It is then put in blocks and given a 24-hour test to insure perfect running condition.

The top and tires are replaced if needed, and the entire vehicle painted and greased. It is then placed in storage ready for reissue—the next best thing to a factory-new truck.

In addition to the value of these repaired vehicles, this process affords practical experience for a large number of mechanics. After a time these Marines will be transferred to other commands where their skills can be utilized in motor transport sections.

One of the amazing things about the whole Depot of Supplies is the seeming-ly endless rows of supplies neatly stored in most of the buildings. The same situation exists in the motor transport storerooms. Tires lined up by the thousands, fenders and boxes of small parts make the uninitate gasp in disbelief. But, to the stock clerks it's really not a large supply—just enough to fill the needs of the Marine Corps now, or in the case of an emergency.

Located in the Schuylkill Annex is the Ordnance Department, which also uses all Marines in the handling and repairing of small arms and optical equipment. By popular opinion these men, and the men in Motor Transport, are the hardest working Marines at the Depot. There is a constant flow of small arms going through the shop

TURN PAGE



Precision repairs are done on field glasses, watches and fire control instruments in the Depot's Optical Section



Marine mechanics overhaul and repaint all vehicles and ready them for reissue. A recruiting jeep gets new brakes



#### "If the Marine Corps uses it, we got it!" is the Depot's proud boast

to be repaired and returned to storage or issued to Marine commands.

At the present time the ordnance section is engrossed in an ambitious program of cleaning and repairing the thousands of weapons picked up from battlefields and those hastily stored when the Marine Corps demobilized some 450,000 men after the war.

All of these weapons are disassembled and cleaned. The stocks are inspected and if in poor condition are refinished or discarded. All worn parts are replaced with new ones, the barrel and receiver refinished (parkerized) and the piece reassembled and tested. It is then coated with rust preventative and boxed for storage and issue. At this point the only weapon in better condition is a new one.

This work, too, is handled on a production line basis, enabling the section to turn out an estimated 35,000 pieces a year. The cost of these weapons new would run into millions of dollars but the aver-

age cost of repair is only \$8.00 each. A good example of the tremendous savings effected is in a BAR which cost the government \$358 new. For the small sum of eight dollars a \$358 investment is reclaimed. Not a bad return for the repair cost, plus some work by these experienced armorers.

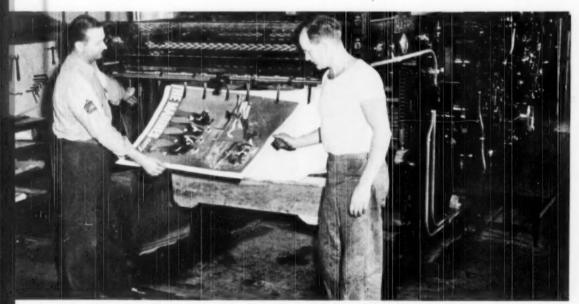
All M-1 rifles and .45 caliber match weapons are star gauged, tested and repaired by specialists in this section.



TSgt. Martin H. Peak is one of two Marines who match condition all rifles and pistols used in competition

The remainder of this building, thousands of square feet of space, is utilized for storage. It includes everything from the hair spring for watches to six-by trucks, and from cloth to stationery of practically every type used in the Marine Corps.

What can't be found in this warehouse, generally without exception can be located in the Snyder Avenue Annex, the General Supply warehouse of the

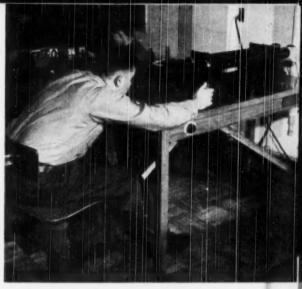


TSgt. H. A. Deal, NCOIC of all offset presses, and SSgt. A. R. Gray, pressman, inspect one of the freshly printed

posters from a brand new two-color press. Running at full capacity, this press turns out 6500 impressions per hour



Pfc Vincent Stramaglia, and Sgt. Paul V. Bailey, watch makers, repair and check all watches issued by the depot



A collimator is used by TSgt. H. D. Ross in checking the axis alignment in the optical elements of field glasses

Depot. Their motto is: "If the Marine Corps uses it, we got it!" After seeing the warehouse few observers would take issue with this statement. Actually there are a few items they don't have. including electronics equipment and special gear of this nature.

One of the least publicized activities at the Depot, strangely enough, is the publicity bureau. This occupies prac-

MSgt. S. E. Blaine, at right, and TSgt. H. B. Flowers check a jeep motor after its 24-hour run on a testing block. All overhauled motors receive this 24-hour test

tically the whole of the Annex at 25th and Locust. A constant stream of recruiting propaganda—everything from posters and literature to roadside signs flows from this office. There are facilities here for making color plates, setting type, printing on almost any stock of paper and in general anything in the line of fine printing you would expect to find in top-notch printing houses. When the Navy has completed the transfer of all its equipment from New York City, the production capacity of the Publicity Bureau will be more than doubled.

Already the demands on the facilities of this section are so great that it is necessary to keep the presses running for two eight-hour shifts a day. With few exceptions these presses are operated by skilled Marine printers and pressmen, a majority of whom have had years of experience in this type of work. In charge of the production is Master Sergeant Arthur R. McWhinney. Another Marine, Master Sergeant James Hoover is shop foreman.

We have described the outstanding features of the Depot and we believe that they will interest the Marine who knows nothing of the establishment. A follow-up story in a future issue will cover the essential work which supplements actual manufacture and repair—how materials are procured, tested and shipped to and from this Depot which, despite obvious handicaps and little chance to practice military routine, remains one of the most interesting posts of the Corps.

## MARINE CORPS

# EQUIPMENT BOARD

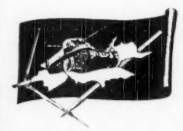
by TSgt. Ray Lewis

Leatherneck Staff Writer





The truck lays a track, a mesh of high tensile, woven steel wire at Quantico



Lt. Col. A. L. Vogt, Col. M. C. Horner Brig. Gen. G. C. Thomas, and Capt. F. Osborn inspect bazooka modification

#### A bureau of standards for the Marines tests, evaluates and recommends every piece of equipment used by the men

NTIL some years ago every Marine was a guinea pig when the Corps bought new equipment. Clothing, ammunition, tanks and other Corps items proved worthy or worth-less for Marine Corps use—after their purchase. Equipment became standardized and was re-ordered when it had proved its actual worth after use. Worthless gear paid for by the Corps was chalked up to experience.

In the early 1930s the Marine Corps abandoned this "Pig in the Poke" procedure and decided to investigate the need for newer equipment and to determine the adequacy of its present equipment. Headquarters Marine Corps accepted the responsibility but the procurement of equipment was a task for specialists. Marine Corps technical advances in the field of amphibious operations brought a definite need for a group of full time experts to advise the Commandant on the Corps' needs in this new respect. A technical board was formed at Quantico for this purpose.

Congress appropriated twenty million dollars in 1935 for a five year development of amphibious operations. Immediately, the Director of the Division of Operations and Training at Marine Corps Headquarters recommended to the Commandant that a Marine Corps Equipment Board be established to further the study of amphibious opera-

tions. Eleven selected officers were detailed by the Commandant to study and recommend to him the types of equipment best suited to the Marine Corps' use. These original members also recommended modifications necessary for the improvement of standard equipment then in use. The board met once a month in Washington, D.C., at the call of the chairman, the assistant commandant of the Marine Corps.

Functioning as an informal discussion group, the board made its recommendations to the Commandant who farmed out the research, development and testing of equipment to various

In July, 1937, the board was moved to Quantico where it expanded in size and scope and meetings became more frequent. Finally, in 1945 the Commandant established a permanent Equipment Board. Personnel were assigned on a permanent basis, shop equipment was installed, and the board was reorganzied to operate as a full-time test agency with adequate facilities and equipment to accomplish its assigned missions.

The one-story, red brick building now housing the Equipment Board was rushed to completion in 1945 after the original wood shops at the same site

TURN PAGE



A commercial lumber harvester is tested by the Engineering Section of the Equipment Board with an eye for combat use.

This machine can be set up and ready for operation in an hour—and it spews out finished lumber at a terrific rate

#### EQUIPMENT BOARD (cont.)

had been destroyed by a fire in 1944.

In this modern, fire-proof building the guess work is taken out of a product and often a super-salesman's pet claims are exploded. Not all claims are exaggerated. Most equipment submitted for tests conforms with the manufacturers promises (under favorable factory conditions.) If it can do the same thing under conditions likely to be experienced in actual amphibious landing operations its chances for recommendation for special or general Marine Corps use are favorable.

The Experimental Group of the Equipment Board is divided into six major sections, each covering a wide range of testing activities within their specified fields. New projects are classified according to their type and are assigned for testing to either the electronic, ordnance, general equipment, engineer, or the newly formed aviation and transport sections.

Full-scale accurate technical testing is facilitated by the board's four major shops. In addition to the woodworking, metal, welding, and automotive shops, there are several sub-shops which are used for repair and maintenance of the equipment used by the sections in their various tests.

Other test facilities available to the

Equipment Board are the Marine Corps Air Technical School, the Communication Officers' School and the Ordnance Technical School at Quantico.

A ready source of men is available from the Schools' troops—formerly the Twenty-second Marines. This organization's Infantry, Artillery, DUKUW and LVT sections, plus available LCVPs and LCMs afford facilities for limited but adequate field testing of arms and equipment.

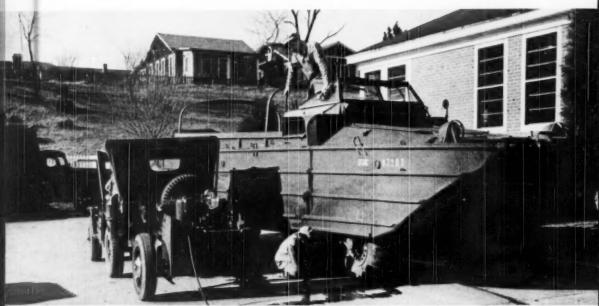
Although section chiefs and their men sometimes feel certain that a piece being tested will not live up to its maker's boasts, they give it full treatment, testing and tabulating the results until the completed statistics can be evaluated by the board.



Surprising results have come from some materials tested, and supervisors and men who conducted the experiments have been moved to open admiration for the qualities of equipment which they fully expected would fail during an early phase of the tests.

Acceptance or rejection of equipment depends entirely on performance. Even after an item is recommended by the board for acceptance it is not a sure thing that it will be put to use. Neither is it a guarantee that a particular piece of accepted equipment is the best that money can buy. It is the best for the money spent because the board, like other government agencies, has a budget to reckon with and all material and equipment selected for use has a price tag which must be met from Marine Corps funds.

New-type electronic equipment from miniature feather-weight receivers and transmitters to 12½-ton, mobile radar sets are tested by the Electronic Section. Qualitative tests show what can be expected for selectivity, waterproofness, range extremes of heat and cold, and ruggedness needed for communications in a fast moving striking force. Bench checks by manufacturers of electronic equipment sometimes appear amazing but a third degree treatment by the electronic section may prove the item worthless. A set which performs wonders at room temperature is some-



A highly mobile lubrication trailer gives a DUKW a treatment. Designed for combat conditions and powered by a four cycle

commercial engine, the trailer can give vehicles a thorough grease job practically on the run. Tests may take weeks

times balky when placed in the board's 65 below zero test box.

Constant changes in the field of ordnance bring many new ideas and developments to be tested for their particular value to the Marine Corps. Radical departures as well as modifications of present ordnance equipment keep the section busy. It may be a modification of the present rocket launcher, a new foreign model antitank rifle grenade, or a device which allows for scoring by remote control on small arms target practice. Someone comes up with the idea of having two-tone target pasters, black on one side and white on the other. The idea eliminates separate sheets of black and white paper, saving time during the pasting up of targets. The results of this particular test are still to be compiled.

A greater variety of materiel is assigned to the General Equipment Section of the board than any of the other five test activities. Anything from a new



A communications man of the Electronic Section checks the frequency response of a test receiver. Every man in this outfit is a specialist in his type of work

MSgt. Conrad Haas experiments with a bazooka modification. Weapons are tried at a boundocks proving ground type filing chest and field desk to shrink-proof clothing and a rubber chevron stamp, is tested by this section. Recent tests on different types of combat boots brought a wealth of statistics which are still being studied. Dozens of pairs were assigned to individuals of the board. They were told to keep records on how much of the time they wore them, where they wore them, how they liked them, and what their frank opinions of the boots were. Each man was supplied with a complete questionnaire which allowed him to keep exact records on the boots. At the end of the test accurate statistics were ready for evaluation.

The conventional supply drop from bomb bays inside a plane is old stuff to the Marine Corps. The modern touch is a fast fighter-bomber, able to supply troops from outside bomb-racks. With this in mind the General Equipment Section is experimenting with a low cost muslin parachute and special container to supply combat troops during early stages of an operation.

Heavy types of equipment are tested by the Engineering Section as well as small work such as new type milling and grinding attachments for a lathe. Gigantic cranes, already proved for industrial use, are tested with the Marine Corps' particular use in mind.

#### EQUIPMENT BOARD (cont.)

Now under test by the Engineering Section is a lumber harvester which is completely portable. With a crew of five Marines this machine can mill 1000 board feet of finished lumber per hour. It can be completely assembled and ready to cut a log as large as 32 inches in diameter and 22 feet long into finished lumber in an hour. The harvester is 40 feet long. A three-cylindered Diesel engine powers it. It can take a dainty one inch bite into a log or a fat 22 inch cut. Finished planking for a hastily built bridge is a matter of a few hours instead of days.

Amphibious tests are given to heavy mobile equipment by the newly formed Transport Section. All new types of fuel handling and transporting equipment are assigned to this section for testing and evaluation from the amphibious viewpoint. A frame cover to protect windshields during transporting vehicles aboard ship is being developed from sketches sent in by the Second Engineers at Camp Lejeune. Previously, windshields were removed from vehicles during transit. Hundreds of windshields will be saved from the breakage which resulted from careless handling and storage after removal.

Though the main objective of the board is to test and evaluate landing force equipment, each section also endeavors to improve equipment used in amphibious and in the airborne phases of amphibious operations. Some of the new ideas for this development come from members of the board, others are

developed as directed by the Command-

In addition, there are established the Landing Force Equipments Boards, Atlantic, and Pacific. These two FMFboards serve a two-fold purpose by screening and evaluating all recommendations from the field and by conducting extensive field tests on equipment recommended for adoption. Through these valuable auxilliary boards come countless suggestions from all ranks of enlisted men and officers. Anyone who has an idea he believes might prove beneficial to the Marine Corps is encouraged to submit it to the Landing Force Equipment Board in his area.

The M-C-E Board itself is headed by a general officer who is appointed president. Twenty-two officers and 50 enlisted men make up the personnel for administrative and experimental purposes.

Selection of enlisted men and officers for duty at the board is based upon the specific skills required for the job to be filled. Headquarters Marine Corps then carefully chooses individuals to fill job vacancies. An interview with certain officers of the board is the final word on incoming personnel and, on occasion, a man has been rejected by the board for duty there because it was felt that the applicant did not fill the bill for a specific assignment.

A typical example of the background demanded of Marines who are assigned duty at the Equipment Board is the

WO Gail Anderson, Ordnance Officer, tests a gizmo that will never be used by Marines. He fires one without it—

That's flour. With neutralizer on, gas dispersion kicks up a dust. Rejected! It might give away a man's position





case of Sergeant David Logee recently assigned to the Electronic Section. The 19 year old Marine has spent 50 weeks out of 18 months service studying radio and electronics—27 weeks of training at the Electronic Technicians School at Great Lakes, Illinois, and 23 weeks

orientation course. During the past year five 30-man groups from the Naval Ordnance Disposal School at Indian Head, Md., visited in order to keep abreast with late developments in ordnance.

In addition to domestic military

visits, the board welcomes accredited military representatives of foreign nations who are here on technical missions for their respective governments.

Since the board went into full operation in 1945, manufacturers throughout the United States have sent their representatives to Quantico to offer their latest items. Established concerns recognize the Armed Services as potential customers and the Marine Corps is no exception. Growing respect for the capabilities and know-how of the Equipment Board as an experimental and testing group has caused all of the companies who hope to do business with the Marine Corps to effect a change in their sales tactics. This change which saves the board many hours of talk and time was noted by one of the officers who is on his second tour of duty at the board. "Manufacturers at first sent their super-salesman as their representatives, now they send their technical experts and engineers."

## The Equipment Board freely exchanges ideas and data with other services

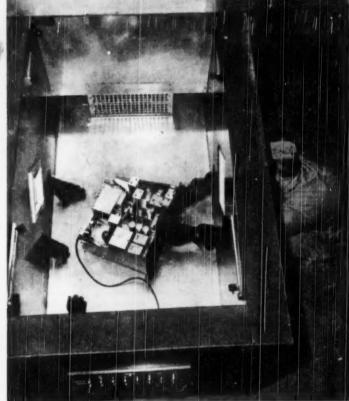


of practical field application at Del Mar, California.

Newly acquired knowledge, advanced techniques or any beneficial data on testing or experimentation of landing force and other amphibious equipment are co-ordinated with interested agencies of the Army, Navy, and Air Force. These agencies also receive copies of all tests and evaluation reports conducted by the board. Constant liaison with the Army, Navy, and Air Force provides an exchange of ideas and techniques which often act as a time, labor and money saver in the experimentation or testing of a new idea.

Liaison is also mrintained with the nearby Marine Corps Schools where a wealth of information is obtainable to assist in determining the adequacy of standard equipment for amphibious operations and to determine requirements for new equipment or modifications for standard equipment.

Representatives of other services, anxious to see the latest in amphibious warfare techniques and equipment, often visit the board for information and inspection of its facilities. In some cases whole groups visit for a short



To test the effect of extremes in temperature on equipment, this box can go to 65° below zero or, at the flick of a switch, duplicate hottest tropical conditions

M/Sqt. Sam Skotz



by TSqt. Ray Lewis Leatherneck Staff Writer



HEN Sam Skotz was 19 years old he hopped aboard his motorcycle for a two-week vacation in Chicago. He tooled his cycle from Cambridge, Mass., to the outskirts of Chicago, where the machine suddenly threw a connecting rod. Sam credits this incident with indirectly causing him to join the Marine Corps.

He was too proud to ask his father for money to fix the motor so he took a loading job in a nearby Chicago freight yard. Six months passed, the cycle was repaired and Sam was tired of loading freight. He decided to take a short trip to Minnesota. For two years he worked in the harvest fields in Minnesota, Montana and the Dakotas. He even took a whack at cowpunching in Wyoming. Then he turned his motorcycle toward home and a vacation from work.

On the trip to the East, Sam parked his cycle in Chicago, and paused for a short rest and a bite to eat. In the lunchroom he met a Marine in Blues . . part of the conversation included this gem of inverse pressure: "It's no cinch to get in the Marine Corps . . . You might not be able to make it."

The challenge was too great for Sam so he hied himself to the Chicago recruiting office the next day and was soon on his way to Parris Island. Recruit training was uneventful, with the exception of a high expert score on the .45 caliber pistol. After 25 years in the Marine Corps Sam isn't anxious to get out.

Sam was born in Kiev, Russia, in 1903. By the time he was eight his parents had moved from Kiev to Hamburg, Germany; Antwerp, Belgium; London, England; and Halifax, Canada. After a year in Halifax they moved to Lynn, Mass., taking up permanent residence a short time later at nearby Cambridge.

His first duty station after boot camp was at Quantico, Va., with the band. He was as snowed at the turn of events as the quizzical drum major who asked, "What type of instrument do you play?" When Sam confided that he was a mechanic he was transferred to aviation duty at nearby Brown Field.

Sam was all set for a good job at the field when annual pistol competitions came up. Remembering his high expert, he tried out for the team-and failed

The failure hit Sam's non-commissioned officer in charge far worse than it did Sam. He promptly put Sam on the "bull gang" as proof positive that aviation Marines had to do every bit as well or better than their brother "gravel crunchers" in line duty.

So impressed was Sam with the endless daily trash pickups-it lasted for a year-that he didn't try his luck with the .45 caliber again for 21 years.

Sam's second stripe came when he was in Haiti on a 25-month tour with Marine aviation unit VO 9M. He says he banged ears to make corporal so fast. In recounting his Haitian duty he recalled names now famous in Marine aviation-Dusty Rhodes, Cushman and Francis Evans. He remembers when they were young lieutenants.

A promise of \$300 per month from a local aviation company in Haiti lured Sam away from the Marine Corps in 1929. But the stock market crash doomed his hopes and he found himself as Joe Citizen with no job. He went to work in the town of Quantico for three years at several different jobs. Then one day he sat down to take stock of his situation. He re-enlisted at Quantico at \$17.50 per month, suffering the loss of shipping-over money which had been dropped due to government economy.

As Private Skotz he was transferred for a six week's photo reconnaissance mission to St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. He was told to take no baggage or unnecessary gear as his tour would be short. After two years he returned to Quantico at Brown Field.

With the rank of warrant officer, Sam went overseas from Quantico in 1943. He was transportation officer with Marine Air Groups 12 and 32 during strikes against the Bismarck Archipelago and during the Philippine Islands campaign. Following this duty he served with MAG12 in the occupation of North China.

While stationed at the Marine Corps Air Station at Ewa, Oahu, after his return from North China, Sam entered the Pacific Division Pistol Matches at the Puuloa Point Range and won his first medal on the three it takes to make Distinguished Marksman. Although his main job is Motor Transport Chief at Headquarters, Marine Corps, Sam continues his pistol shooting. He won 12 individual medals in local civilian and police competitions during 1949.

As a hobby he coaches the Women Marines' Pistol team at Henderson Hall. After careful selection he hopes to take the five best .22 caliber shots out in local civilian competition this

Sam has five years and a butt to do on 30. He's not sure where he and his wife will settle when he retires but wherever it may be, the neighborhood children will certainly hear lots about the Marine Corps. And they'll all learn to shoot-in the black. END



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in 25 months and eight days, when my enlistment expires."

Big Red laughs. He laughs so hard I think he does not take me seriously. Through the guffaws he says, "If that is a promise, I will write you a letter every day to make sure you keep getting them. You are the worst clown in the Marine Corps and this is no circus. You will do everybody in the Corps a favor if you do not ship over, which they will never let you do anyway."

I am quick to take advantage of a situation. I say, "If I am not taken off the mail orderly's list, then I will ship over."

Big Red has been known to become mad at Pics and he now becomes mad at me. He leans his six feet three over me and his face is very red and very big, and very close to mine. I can hear him very well as he is roaring.

"Lad, how stupid is it possible for you to get?"

I tell him I do not know how stupid I can get, but he is busy roaring and does not listen to me.

"I thought you got as stupid as you can get last month on maneuvers when you tried to launch a grenade from your BAR. Sometimes I wish I hadn't been around to stop you. And now you want me to tell the United States government you don't want any more mail."

Then his voice becomes weary and he does not knock me over the row of bunks like I figure he will do. His big hands run through his red hair and he says, "Why do you do these things to me. Dill?"

I am glad to tell him my story as I know anyone will feel the same as me, getting such letters.

A few months ago, home on furlough, I go to a bar I have never been in before. The first thing I see in this bar is a waitress. She is a doll with long black hair and a face like the pictures guys cut out of the magazines to put up in locker boxes. She has the kind of body they cut out, too.

I am no wise guy, and I do not mean to whistle at her, but I do and the whistle says exactly what I am thinking. She does not pay attention. I am still watching her ripple about while I sit at a stool and order a beer.

I turn to pay the bartender. He has

TURN PAGE





Big Red uses me for instructional purposes in judo. This means I take a poke at him and he flips me through the air. I am rather beat up but I am learning

a big hairy hand that looks like it winds twice around the beer glass. There is an arm like a healthy tree trunk and his shirt is having a tough time keeping his shoulders hemmed in. He is almost as big as Big Red. His face is as friendly as a stampeding buffalo's and bis beard looks like it is five o'clock all the time.

I try to smile and hand him my dime.

He does not smile back. He glares. "You are a wise guy," he says, "You are a wise guy who comes into places and gets smart whistling at the wait-resses. I do not like you. I think I will beat you to a pulp—a bloody pulp."

He wraps his hand around my field scarf and lifts me from the stool. I am thinking that Big Red would not let this happen to him. Big Red at this point would be mashing the bartender's teeth against the back bar. Big Red is my ideal, but I have not been in the Marine Corps as long as he and I cannot do most of the things he can.

I am asking the bartender to put me back where he got me when a soft, sweet voice says, "Put him down, Ludwig."

Then I hear a growl and a thud. The growl is Ludwig, the bartender, and the thud is me. Ludwig does not put me back where he found me, on the bar stool. He drops me all the way to the deck, on purpose, I think, and walks away still growling.

"Ha!" I say when I know he is too far away to hear, "Who is going to beat who to a pulp—a bloody pulp? You are nothing but a clown, Ludwig. In fact I have never seen such a clown in my nine months in the Marine Corps. And it is a good thing you shoved off when you did, because I do not like clowns."

Again, I hear the soft, sweet voice. "My, my, Marine, you talk rough. I am glad I saved Ludwig when I did."

It is the beautiful waitress. She is smiling and is ten times better than anything I ever saw pinned up in anybody's locker box. I have to whistle again. She smiles some more and I get up.

"Miss," I say, "I do not mean to come in here and get tough. I also do not mean to be a wise guy, but there is something about you that makes me want to—to whistle."

She says, "That is a lovely compliment, and please call me Sandie. I think you are a very cute little Marine. What is your name?"

I am in love. I cannot say my name the first five times I try. Finally I stutter that I am Brownie Dill and I have been in the Marine Corps nine months already.

"You have been in nine whole months already!" she exclaims. "No wonder you are so rugged, Brownie. None of our other customers dare have arguments with Ludwig."

"That is nothing," I tell her. "I am not half as rugged now as I will be when I finish individual combat training. I am going back to camp tomorrow and when I come home again I will show you how rugged a guy can get."

"I cannot wait to see such a spectacle," she says, and leaves me with a big smile to wait on some customers.

I sit alone, drinking beer and thinking what a hit I have made with Sandie. Once in a while she flashes me another smile and I feel like flying up and down the bar. This feeling also comes from the five beers I consume.

When she leaves she says goodbye and it seems to me she is smiling sadly. I feel sorry for her because she will not see me for a while.

I keep drinking when she goes, gloating over what a lover the Marine Corps has made of me in nine months. Each time Ludwig brings me a refill I hear growling. I do not like this and as I do not feel normal, being in love and having gone over my three beer limit, I tell him about it.

"Ludwig," I sneer in his foot-wide face, "I do not like you or the way you tend bar. Get on the ball before I smash you against the bulkhead."

It does not take Ludwig long to pluck me from my stool by the back of the collar and carry me to the door.

"I warned you, Ludwig," I yell, taking a swing at him. However, he is holding me at arm's length and I miss by six inches. I feel my collar leaving the rest of my jacket.

"Ludwig, let go of my collar, Don't you know we cannot survey clothes any more. You are asking for trouble, Ludwig."

I am thrown to the sidewalk.

"You," says Ludwig, "are the biggest clown I have seen in 21 years of tending bar." He slams the door in my face. He has made an enemy, but I figure I will let things ride for a while.

Back in camp we start the individual



combat training. This is judo and other means of fighting which Big Red says will let a little guy get rough with a big guy. Big Red is our instructor and he uses me for instructional purposes. This means I take pokes at him and he flips me through the air. I am rather beat up, but I am learning. I keep thinking of what a hero I will be when I go back and threw Ludwig around right where Sandie will see me.

By the time we finish the course, things are such that I never had it so good. I am about the best of Big Red's pupils and he gets so he hardly reads me off or puts me on any details. Also, even the mail doesn't bother me, as I get none.

Of course, things go back to normal with Big Red when I fall out for blues inspection with a green cover, which is a normal mistake anyone could make. But Big Red does not see it that way.

I put in for a long week end and get it after three weeks. Until the day I go I spend all my spare time practicing throwing people about. I get good and run out of people. I almost ask Big Red to spar around, but I figure the platoon needs him and will get mad at me if I hurt him. So I save myself for Ludwig.

When I get back to the bar everything is the same. The first thing I see is Sandie looking more lovely than I could remember her. I whistle and she tosses a smile back at me. Ludwig is as big and ugly as before. "Look," he says, "because you are little and because I got a soft spot for Marines, how about shoving off now before I got to hurt you. I warn you."

"Ludwig," I say, "do not bang ears with me. I have not forgotten you taking advantage of me the last time. I am here for revenge, but now I must talk with Sandie. Shove off."

He raises a giant fist and I am all set for him, but Sandie says "Stop it boys. Ludwig, I do not want you and Brownie hurting each other, so leave him alone."

Then we have a long talk and I tell her how much I have missed her and how rugged I have become.

"Brownie," she says, shaking her head, "I have never met anyone like you, but I wish you would not talk so rough. You make Ludwig mad, and even if you are tough he is bigger than you, and is liable to hurt you by accident."

"Ludwig is a phoney," I tell her. "Sandie, I am surprised to hear you say these things. I will beat Ludwig to nothing."

She goes to wait on some people and I figure now is the time. I tell Ludwig I want another beer. He brings it.

"Ludwig, there is something in my beer." I point. He bends to look in. I flip the beer

in his big, ugly face.

It does not take him long to vault

across the bar. He sends a healthy left at me. I duck and jab the point of my hand at his upper belly.

"OOOFF!" says Ludwig, and doubles over. I get him in the chin with my knee and give the edge of my hand to the back of his neck.

He is tough and comes back swinging and snorting like a bull. I catch his right arm on the way toward me, step in, bend over, and Ludwig flies across the bar to where he started. In the process of landing he demolishes a few rows of whiskey bottles, glasses and the like. He lays in the whiskey and broken glass for a while, then leaps across the bar again. It is easy to tell he is mad.

He takes a flying tackle and it is easy to catch his hands and swing him toward a booth, which he crashes through. Also through the people who are eating in the booth.

By now Sandie and the customers are yelling and screaming for me to stop this slaughter. I feel I am enough of a hero to stop now, but Ludwig is coming at me again.

He comes in slowly, and I back away, waiting for him to put himself at my mercy. I am laughing at him and calling him a clown. Big Red would have been proud of me.

Ludwig brings one up from the floor. I kick at his hand and calmly reach for the other one to flip him over my shoulder. But his other hand is not where it should be. I see it for just a split second before I feel it crashing somewhere between my nose and my left eye. I feel myself flying for the door, which I go through, even though it isn't open.

I do not remember anything until I wake up in a taxi. The driver is shaking me and telling me we are at the train station and I owe him a buck and a half.

I am very sad and my head hurts as I get aboard the train to go back to camp.

However, I think that the feeling between Sandie and me is too great to be spoiled by a lucky punch from that clown, Ludwig. I overcome my hate of mail and write Sandie a letter, telling her the way I feel and asking her to wait for me to come back again.

She writes back. I think the mail is a wonderful thing and I am shaking with love as I sneak off to read the letter by myself.

So I hate the mail worse than ever. The letter is a bill for 463 dollars and 85 cents for things I smashed up with Ludwig. Written across the bottom of the bill is:

"You are the worst clown I have ever seen in four years of owning a bar— —Sandie!"



Ludwig takes a flying tackle and it is easy to catch his hands and swing him at a booth, which he crashes through. Also through the people sitting in the booth

# Leatherneck Laffs



"Where do the Marines fall in, boy?"







"Remind me to write home that I saw the state capital"

#### don't let this happen to you!



"Sorry, Angelface . . .
but I getta go now.
Tonight is my turn to read
my buddy's LEATHERNECK."

Don't miss out ... on the Good Things of Life just because you don't own your own copy of the LEATHERNECK. Become a regular subscriber ... and you'll never again have to break off a big moment for the sake of your required reading.\*

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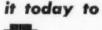
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by TSgt. George Buringe

Leathernack Staff Writer

TKBN

#### Week end drivers of the San Diego area take off in medium tanks



Sergeants H. D. Freeman and J. P. Darcy of the Inspection and Instruction staff check signals on a plan of action designed to give student tank pilots the works

talion on December 12, 1946, at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. "A" Company was organized on April 8, 1947, and in March of the following year, when the battalion recruited its full Table of Organization strength, "B" Company was formed at Camp Del Mar, Oceanside. Recently, however, a second Reserve tank unit was activated on the East Coast.

Expansion of the Reserves in the San Diego area was expected to be slow because of the thousands of Regular Marines in the vicinity but an earnest group of citizens proved otherwise. The members, almost half of them with previous service, brought into the organization a cross section of civilian life: school teachers and students, laborers. public officials and policemen. Lieutenant Commander L. K. Johnson, Chaplain's Corps, USNR, pastor of a leading church in La Jolla, was one of the first to join and has attended all three Summer training periods. He had been a chaplain on troopships with Marines during the war.

Major Bob S. Griffin, USMCR, a former antitank officer with the Second Marine Division, and presently a land appraiser for the state of California, commands the battalion. His executive officer, Captain Philip C. Morell, USMCR, is better known around the San Diego area as basketball coach and instructor of English and social studies at Grossmont High School. Another school teacher, Captain Bruce W. Clarke, USMCR, athletic coach and instructor at Sweetwater High School,

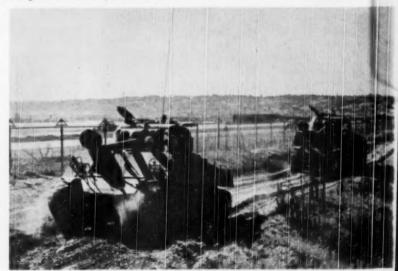
TURN PAGE



THERE are no back seat drivers in the 11th Tank Battalion, USMCR. In this organization everyone learns the operation and fundamental functions of the 35-ton medium tank, from its nomenclature to maneuvering it under simulated battle conditions.

The handling of one of these tanks isn't easy. It is necessary to keep the tank moving at speeds suitable for the terrain, and a constant check must be kept on the high powered engine while in operation to prevent possible breakdowns. The development of an efficient tank team, the goal of the 11th Tank Battalion, requires training and experience.

For nearly three years this battalion had the distinction of being the only tank unit in the Organized Reserves. Headquarters and Service Company was formed with the activation of the bat-



Tooling the tanks through the tules in Saturday morning sessions is great sport to Citizen Marines. Less than half of them have had previous military training



Tank pilots must be mechanics, too. While the I & I staff gives them the word, the Reserves learn the art of pulling one of the tank's V-8 motors for repairs

National City, is "A" Company's commander, and Captain Luther M. Hake, USMCR, a motorcycle patrolman of the California State Highway Patrol, commands "B" Company. An Inspector-Instructor staff, headed by Lieutenant Colonel A. B. Swenceski, USMC, assists in the training and recruiting of the battalion. Col. Swenceski, an experienced tank officer who received the Purple Heart and Silver Star during the Tarawa campaign has always been a "first" with tanks. In 1940 he organized the first West Coast tank unit at the Marine Corps Base and on July 1, 1948, he returned to the same base to head what was then the Organized Reserves' only tank unit.

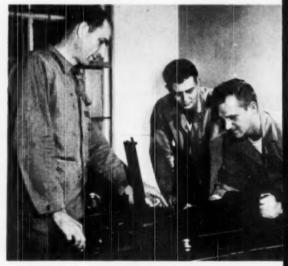
Assisting the Inspector-Instructor are two Reserve officers on active duty and 20 enlisted men of which nine are Regulars and 11 are Reserves serving on continuous active duty. These men direct the administration and training of the Reservists. Master Sergeant Harry E. Bryan, the I&I sergeant major, helped activate the battalion and has watched it grow to its present size. A few more months will give him a 30-year widely traveled and interesting Marine Corps career.

The battalion, with 17 medium tanks and one recovery unit, is organized along lines similar to those employed in World War II. The men receive training in both theory and driving at its training center on the bay side of the recruit depot, and in tactical and firing problems during the annual two weeks of field training at Camp Pendleton. First echelon repairs and maintenance can be performed by the battalion.

Weekly training consists of general and specialized instructions and close order drill for all hands. A 20-piece band and the communications section conduct their own classes. Despite the fact that about half of the men are new to the military service none of



Battalion exec, Captain Philip C. Morell, USMCR, doubles in civilian life as a basketball coach and high school teacher



TSgt. Dudley Burch, USMC, Sgt. Walter M. Simms, and Corp. Vernon Durham study the .50 cal. air-cooled machine gun



Practice session, 11th Tk. Bn. band. Leader, Howard Guy, MSgt., was with Fourth Marine Division's band during war



Troop and stomp goes with tanks, too. Rifles for drill are passed out by assistant armorers Vern Durham, Walt Simms

the "old salts" pull their time on the youngsters. Several members of last Summer's Platoon Leaders' Class, now attending San Diego State College, are among the ranks learning new things and keeping brushed up on military functions. Drill competition between squads and platoons keeps the men sharp and on their toes.

Saturday mornings are devoted to volunteer driving by those who can arrange to attend. After a man has learned the nomenclature of the tank he is instructed in "sprocket driving." During this first phase of the training the track is broken so that the engine and gears may be operated without moving the tank. Using this method the Reservists, under the experienced guidance of a member of the I&I staff, learn the procedure of starting and stopping the tank and of the numerous checks that are necessary to insure the proper performance of its many parts.

After mastering the starting-stopping procedure the tank is driven to the driving range or into the field where the Reservists learn hand and arm signals. Then they do actual driving in first, second and reverse gears until they are fully competent in shifting. Their final phase is driving in all gears and learning how to shift down and up so the tank will be kept running at its proper speed according to the terrain. The artificial sand fills on the bay side of the recruit depot make an excellent tank range because the doubtful surface firmness gives the student drivers needed practice in keeping the tank rolling at its proper effective speed.



In the guts of the armored monster, the Reserves pick up grease and gumption and learn tanks from tread to turret under the watchful eyes of the I & I staff

A proficient driver will operate with a platoon of five tanks. Due to the possible absence of one or more of the members at one time every man in a tank crew must be a qualified driver. Class room lectures and demonstrations teach the men the tank's general characteristics, engine, turrets, weapons and preventive maintenance.

Every effort is made to keep the public informed about the Reserves, their equipment and training. Tanks of the 11th Tank Battalion, USMCR, are always a part of the San Diego County Fair, other local fairs and fiestas, and parades. Last Fall Sergeant James P.

Darcy, a member of the I&I Staff, demonstrated a tank and lectured to the military science class at one of the local high schools. Their participation in the Organized Reserves nationwide "Toys for Tots" drive each year provides numerous gifts for the Crippled Children's Home in Chula Vista.

Through their participation in local events, athletic contests, and Summer training the Reservists are fast becoming better known in their community and better trained to meet both military and civilian requirements. The training which eliminates the back seat driver is paying off.



FLAG RAISERS—The survivors of the five Marines and Sailor, who raised the American flag on Iwo Jima viewed the statue

depicting the occasion on a recent visit to Washington. L. to R. Sculptor, F. De Weldon, R. Gagnon, I. Hayes, and J. Bradley

#### "The \$360 Question"

TSgt. Charles E. Barry, Mess Chief for Marine Barracks, Argentia, Newfoundland, was looking forward to the end of his enlistment with a feeling of pleasant anticipation. Not, as some may think, because he planned to be discharged, but because of his intention to ship over for six years. Of course, the \$360 involved as re-enlistment bonus was not a prime factor in his decision but he was looking forward to getting all that cash in hand. On the fateful day of December 21, 1949, he was to be the first Marine to ship for six at the far northern outpost. In all probability his enlistment would be among the first six-year cruises in the entire Marine Corps under the provision of ALMAR 18. Again, there was the nice, round sum of \$360 to dream about.

Sgt. Barry's pleasant reveries were shattered when the mail plane arrived with an epistle from Mrs. Barry. Enclosed was a small clipping from the hometown paper wherein was described the benefits to be derived from six year enlistments. The sum of \$360 was neatly underlined and inked in along the border of the article were the words: "What's the dope?"

Sgt. Barry, when asked to comment, had only this to say: "Never try to keep anything from the ever-loving wife."

#### Shooters' Note

Marines are accustomed to top or near top positions in the never-ending circle of National Rifle Association matches. But only in recent years have Marines been top men in the Association itself. Major General Merrit A. "Red Mike" Edson, USMC Ret., was recently elected President of the Association. He relieved Lieutenant Colonel Emmett O. Swanson in that office.

Gen. Edson, Medal of Honor winner and leader of the famed "Edson's Raiders" during World War II, is presently the Director of Public Safety for the State of Vermont. He has been notable since his retirement for his ceaseless fight for the preservation of the Marine Corps and its mission as a valuable component of the Armed Forces.

#### Return

Losing a job is bad enough, but losing a career is one of the toughest things that can happen to a man. It happened to First Lieutenant William Frederick Freitag in 1946. He was forced to take a disability retirement.

Freitag liked the Marine Corps. He enlisted in 1940 after finishing high school (Cass Tech in Detroit), and went via Parris Island to Marine Corps Schools, Quantico. In less than a year he became an instructor at the Field Telephone School. He applied for OCS and was commissioned in 1943. Two weeks before D-Day on Iwo Jima, Freitage made first lieutenant. He was a replacement with the Twenty-seventh

Marines, Fifth Division. "I must have hit the beach on the 13th wave," said Freitag. A burst of shrapnel was waiting for him on the beach. It fouled up his left arm considerably. The medics shook their heads, and Freitag became a retired Marine on a disability pension.

His first job outside was with a glass factory, loading boxes. His disability didn't interfere with this work. Freitag tried to get back in the Corps without result. Later he went to the West Coast. His Marine occupational specialty landed him a job with the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. Freitag stayed with them for two years, and his arm grew stronger.

In January he asked for a leave of absence. He headed East, ostensibly to look for a better job. He stopped briefly in Detroit, talked with the men in the recruiting office and shoved off for Washington, D. C.

On January 28, 1950, former First Lieutenant William Frederick Freitag, waivers and contracts signed, became plain Pfc Freitag, USMC.

"My ambition," said Pfc Freitag, firmly, as he began his six year cruise, "is to go as high as I can in the Marine Corns."

TURN PAGE



WELCOME ABOARD—Washington Recruiters, SSgt. Nick Gledich (left) and Sgt. R. Machado, reminisce about Iwo with former 1st Lieutenant, now Pfc Wm. F. Freitag





TV TEXAN—When this gent was a Marine he answered to the name of Loudermilk, Sherman C. Now he's TV's "Texas Slim"



ARTIST.—As a Marine combat artist, Tex was one of the best; now his TV artistry charms small-fry like the one shown here

#### Cowboy Slim

Marines who served on Guadalcanal, Guam and Bougainville will remember a certain tousle-haired Third Marine Amphibious Corps sergeant with the memorable title of Sherman C. Loudermilk. Where the action was thickest you would find Loudermilk—a carbine slung over one shoulder, his painting kit dangling from the other.

The lean sergeant from Abilene, Texas, won wide recognition as one of the Marines' top combat artists and had a reputation with the front line troops for going directly to the source for his inspiration. Loudermilk's art work has been reproduced by the Marine Corps on large posters depicting battle scenes of the Pacific and Lite Magazine carried a two-page spread of Loudermilk art.

Now a discharged Marine, Loudermilk is in the public eye once again. He is the "Cowboy Slim" of West Coast television. Fo.ty-five minutes a day, five days a week. Slim (alias Loudermilk) is the star of his own program over Television Station KTTV in Hollywood.

Cowboy Slim's simple technique has made him the idol of the TV small-fry audience. He does not sing, court luscious cowgirls, or wear snow-white goldstudded suits like Rogers or Autry. In an official Cowboy Slim suit (blue jean trousers and jacket which includes his name on the coat pocket). Loudermilk plays only one part—Cowboy Slim. His format, all extemporaneous, is based on actually teaching the kids western lore and range information like roping, branding, and western stories. Now that his fan mail is averaging 500 letters a week the movies are beckoning.

Captain Milton Sperling. USMCR, now head of United States pictures at Warner Brothers, can claim the credit for launching Loudermilk on his career as a combat artist. After Slim had won a Red Cross-sponsored art contest with a water color of a native village, Capt. Sperling requested Loudermilk's assignment to the Public Information Section of the Third Marine Amphibious Corps.

As a combat artist under Sperling, the present TV-cowboy soon gained wide-spread recognition for his war paintings. Upon his return to the States the Marine Corps sponsored showings of his paintings in the National Galleries, Washington, D. C.; Museum of Modern Art. New York City; San Diego Museum of Art and Pasadena Art Institute.

Headquarters, Marine Corps, has more than 200 of Loudermilk's sketches and paintings in a permanent collection of Marine war art.

It was through another Marine Corps friend that Loudermilk got his start in television. Former Captain Johnathan C. Rice, now connected with Paramount's Television Station KTLA interested Slim in becoming art director there.

A children's hour, featuring a cowboy, was eventually added to the station's schedule and Loudermilk, who looks like Mr. Cowboy himself, was given a try-out. From the start, Slim's naturalness and ability to make kids feel at ease made him a hit.

His success reached a further peak at a recent western night in the Hollywood Bowl when Movie Cowboy Tex Williams presented him with an award for his achievements in television. The other cowboys on the program sang, danced, or had some specialty. Cowboy Slim brought along a baby bull and threw him on the stage.

Commented Cowboy Williams: "That's the first time a live bull was thrown in Hollywood."

Submitted by: Norris Anderson Lincoln, Neb.



Century, and includes German, Belgium, British, Japanese, and American models.

In addition to firearms collected during the last 14 years, CWO Newton has naval swords of the Civil War period, Japanese Samuria swords from World War II, and a Colonial Army Infantry Officer's sword which has a hilt similar to the present day Marine officer's sword.

Of the 33 pistols in his collection, CWO Newton prizes his two 19th Century models most highly. The caliber 41 cap and ball Wurfflein Derringer is identical to the one used to assassinate Abraham Lincoln; the other pistol, perhaps the most valuable weapon in the collection, is a pocket model, 50 caliber flintlock piece. The 1812 antique is inlaid with gold and was made by H. Nock, one of England's famous gunsmiths of that period.

Although some of his weapons are over 100 years old, all are in working order.

Parris Island Boot

END

COMMANDANTS—The Marine Corps' only full generals meet in Washington, D.C. Retired four-star Generals Holcomb and Vandegrift appear with C. B. Cates



#### Collector

There is one member of the Marine Corps' shooting fraternity who gets a kick out of collecting guns as well as firing them. He is Commissioned Warrant Officer C. L. Newton, of MCRD, Parris Island.

Since 1933, when he enlisted in the Corps, CWO Newton has had a love for weapons. His first assignment after completing boot camp at P.I. was rifle coach at the local rifle range.

Collecting firearms became Newton's hobby in 1937 when he was serving aboard the USS Vincennes. The cruiser was making ports of call in Europe at the time and the collector was able to select many of the foreign firearms presently in his arsenal. Newton's collection now numbers over 60 weapons, some dating back to the early 19th



GUNNY—CWO Newton proudly displays a portion of his firearms colection. He holds one of his favorites, a Kentucky Long Rifle measuring 64 inches in length



Flying Bulls learn how to bellow better at Staff NCO's Toastmasters meetings



MSgt. George W. Cannon, big gun of the evening, accepts first prize from Sgt. Norwood Edmundson for making best talk at El Toro's Toastmasters International

# OPERATION SNOW JOB



TSgt. Paul Gearhart spins a yarn while judge at left keeps the book on him. After dinner

#### by 1st Lt. Cecil P. Lewis

ANY'S the Marine who has suspected that a company top sergeant or regimental sergeant major loves nothing better than to hear the sound of his own voice raised at the unfortunate. Few, however, ever reckoned that Staff NCOs might form an organization where they could hear themselves talk.

The Staff NCO Chapter of Toastmasters International located at the El Toro Marine Air station at El Toro. California, is the only such organization in the world. Though the volunteer speakers groups are organized around the globe and there are now more than 700 active groups in the United States alone, it was up to a group of enterprising non-commissioned officers at the air station to set about developing the first service group. At present the group totals 30 members, which is the most any one chapter can have. There are a number of additional Staff NCOs on the waiting list and there is talk of starting a second group at El Toro. The commissioned officers on the station also have a similar group.

Organized for the purpose of selfimprovement in public speaking and to furnish speakers for meetings, dinners and other engagements in which Marine Corps participation was requested, the El Toro group has the blessing of the commanding general, Major General Field Harris, USMC, who says, "with non-commissioned officers being constantly called upon to serve as instructors in nearly every phase of Marine Corps training, we have encouraged the Toastmasters group at El Toro. We feel that it offers an excellent opportunity to gain instructional experience and to acquire command presence."

Brigadier General Stanley E. Ridderhof, formerly an officer on the station but now retired and a resident of nearby Laguna Beach, was instrumental in helping to form this first enlisted chapter and is still a guest at many of their meetings.

Another frequent visitor to the El Toro group is Ralph C. Smedley of Santa Ana. Smedley is the founder of Toastmasters International and is credited with starting the first such speaking group more than 25 years ago. Headquarters for the world-wide organization is located at Santa Ana, a few miles from the air station.

One of the members of the NCO group explains the purpose of the club perhaps better than anyone else.

"Back in the early days of Greek civilization," he relates, "when a man had a speech impediment, he might put a few pebbles in his mouth and try to speak with them. In that way, he either had to take more care in pronouncing his words or he was likely to strangle on one of the rocks. Even worse, he stood the danger of breaking a tooth on one of the stones if he didn't speak with care.

"Our purpose is much the same, except that we bring our stones to the meetings with us and hurl them at each other. Criticism of each other as speakers not only helps the man who is being criticized, but makes each of us more conscious of faults in our own speaking which have gone unnoticed before.

"The man who is ambitious to get ahead in any business or profession needs to know how to express himself," Gen. Ridderhof pointed out at one of the meetings recently. "That is particularly true in the military service."

In the Marine Corps, where any man with more than one chevron is more than likely to be called upon to serve as a lecturer or instructor on less than a moment's notice, the teachings of Toastmasters International are particularly helpful. Basically, it teaches them to talk. It gives them the practice and eventually the self assurance that they need if they are to hold and impress an audience.

One member of the El Toro enlisted men's group brings up three points that explain the advantages of the club for service personnel rather well.

He points out, first, that chances for

TURN PAGE



speaking is a tough order but a few sessions with this group is a sure cure for stuttering



General Stanley Ridderhof, USMC (Ret.) gives speech-making tips to Toastmasters (standing) J. F. Jones, John Albert, Glenn Gottwald; (seated) Ed Miller, Al Peters

advancement for either the private or the junior officer may depend upon his ability to speak. If he is inarticulate or inhibited, however much he knows, his chances for promotion are impaired.

Secondly the young NCO or officer is frequently called upon to act as instructor. If his speech is halting or uncertain, he cannot impress his associates. He loses face with them.

Third, sooner or later nearly every Marine is called upon to perform in some type of public relations capacity, be it recruiting duty, public information work or simply speaking at a school or church function. In time of war, he may be excused for lack of skill in speech, but in peace, when he is interpreting the Armed Services to the general public, speaking ability is essential.

As Marine Master Sergeant John P. Albert, secretary of the El Toro chapter expresses it, "Supposedly, when a man becomes a commissioned or non-commissioned officer, he already has the ability to speak. However, there are always those who would rather go through another major campaign than to face a small audience.

"During the war and immediate postwar years, promotions came fast and often a man's combat record had more to do with his advancement than his abilities in a classroom or during a recruiting drive. Now, though, they need that ability."

Meetings are, of course, of a semiformal nature. In the El Toro group, a board of elected officers takes care of the paper work connected with the weekly meetings. Each week, a man is assigned to pick a subject for a round table discussion. The subject is not announced until the meeting is underway. Each member is then required to take a stand on the subject of the evening and to present his views to the others.

As a means of helping each speaker, members of the club are specifically assigned to duties of criticizing each talk, offering any hints or suggestions that might help the speaker to become more fluent. One of the older members is appointed as General Evaluator and sums up each speech for the benefit of the speaker, impressing him with faults which he must correct.

During the evening, a previously picked number of speakers are given an opportunity to present subjects of their own choosing. There are only two rules concerned here: One—the Civil War is a forbidden subject, since one can hear hard-clipped Yankee voices, Texas drawls and soft mid-

western accents around the edges of the table. Second, should the speaker choose to tell a fish story, he must bring the fish along to prove it. Other than that, anything goes, sea stories, et al.

The El Toro Staff NCO Toastmasters group has been put to good use since their charter was awarded them last May, according to Major F. H. Smyth, Public Information Officer, who is himself a Toastmaster.

On numerous occasions, his office has called upon the club to furnish speakers for special events. Nearby recruiting offices, hearing of the "talkin' sergeants," have put in their bids and "borrowed" several of the men for speaking engagements in high schools, colleges and similar institutions where



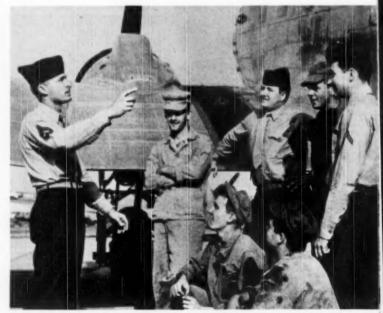
interest warranted a qualified speaker.

Though the El Toro group is the only organization of its kind in the world at the present time, the movement is already gaining momentum in the Marine Corps. Following recent annual transfers, members of the club were scattered and sent to establishments throughout the world. Already former members of the El Toro club have applied for charters for new branches at Cherry Point and Camp Lejeune. N.C. The application at Cherry Point has been granted.

Brigadier Gen. Robert Blake, Inspector-General of the Marine Corps, recently had an opportunity to see some of the workings of both the officers and non-commissioned officers groups and said, "This training is just what I needed years ago as a young officer. I am glad that our men have it now."

There is just one custom which outsiders have trouble understanding. Each week, the top speaker is awarded a new necktie, usually a loud, near lusty creation that would make the average civilian scream with envy or cringe, depending upon his nature. That is the prize.

The top honor that any member can be accorded, however, is to be informed by unanimous vote that "you did okay. You don't have to wear a necktie to the next meeting."



Toastmaster training helps the Staff NCOs in their work. TSgt. Paul Gearhart, who learned to speak before a critical audience, lectures with new confidence

#### SOUND OFF

[continued from page 7]

#### OLD TIMERS NOTE

Dear Sir.

I am writing this letter to you upon the suggestion of the officers and members of the Badger Detachment, Marine Corps League, who felt that you might be able to help me.

You see, I started collecting U.S. and foreign military and law enforcement uniforms, insignias and shoulder patches, shortly after losing my sight, and now have over 5000 individual items in this collection. I have been mounting these items in groups according to country, branch of service, state or department.

In gathering articles for my U.S. Marine Corps group I have experienced very little difficulty in obtaining shoulder patches and most of the present day chevrons. However, I have been unable to obtain any of the old style rating and large size chevrons, the up to date first sergeants dress chevrons with the diamond, branch of service lapel insignia, warrant officers' rank insignias, USMC hat cords such as were worn with the campaign hats, and aviation striker rates such as were worn on the lower sleeve, and the various styles of belt buckles which were worn with the white belting.

While I fully realize that I am looking for more than a few items, I would greatly appreciate it if you would be, in any way, able to assist me in obtaining the wanted articles for the Marine Corps group in my collection.

Bud Christenson

5158 N. Lake Drive Milwaukee 11, Wis.

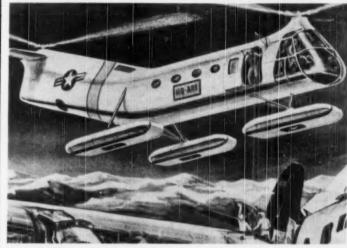
 Leatherneck readers who have any of the items which Mr. Christenson wants or information of where they may be obtained are urged to correspond with him at the above address.

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### Sky lines

by SSGT, WILLIAM MORRIS

Leatherneck Staff Writer



Piasecki's latest—the H-21—will have "omniphibious" landing gear which enables the craft to land anywhere. The Air Force will use these units in Arctic rescue work

USS Norton Sound left Port Hueneme for 21-day cruise in Gulf of Alaska where one or more AEROBEE rockets will be fired in high-altitude sounding tests. Norton Sound is the Navy's experimental guided missile ship. Tests are part of Navy's cosmic ray development program. Dr. J. A. Van Allen of Johns Hopkins' Applied Physics Laboratory will direct tests for BuOrd. Alaska was site selected because of relations between earth's magnetic field and activity of cosmic ray particles. Past AERO-BEE tests from Norton Sound showed rocket attained altitude of 65 miles above earth. Special electronic and photographic equipment tracks rockets in flight.

Tests are underway for the Navy's Airborne Early Warning System. A modified Lockheed Constellation is being readied as a flying laboratory to test radar equipment for the long range detection of enemy targets.

Chief reason for the tests is the limitations of radar aboard ship and surface installations. Radar is restricted as identically as the line of sight. Low flying, hopped-up enemy planes can take advantage of this fact to avoid early detection.

The flying laboratory will increase the coverage area of radar. Two large radome humps will house the antennae of the plane's powerful radar equipment. Technicians and electronic equipment operators will put the gear through its paces.

The USS Bairoko, home afloat of Marine fighting squadron 452, a unit based at El Toro, Calif., was recently placed in mothballs at Alameda, Calif. The USS Rendova, another carrier which had been used by Marine Air units, also goes under wraps.

A speed of ten times the velocity of sound has been attained by the California Institute of Technology in their wind tunnel—a new hypersonic device for Army ballistics experts. Previous highest speed was seven times that of sound. The new tunnel permits tests to be made at speeds greater than those of the most advanced rockets and missiles.

Scientists found the badly smashed tail surface section of the two-phase, high-flying rocket, WAC Corporal. The 700-pound Corporal, launched from a German V-2 in flight, soared to an altitude of 250 miles. Army ordnance and General Electric authorities believed that the missile had disintegrated on its return when it re-entered the carth's atmosphere. The flight procedure begins with the launching of the V-2 which carries the WAC Corporal. The Corporal is separated from the V-2 at a speed of 5000 miles an hour. Among the pieces recovered from the tail section was the "Switchette," a part of the discharging mechanism of the Corporal. The piece, although charred, is still useable.

#### MARINE CORPS CHANGES

Marine Corps Special Orders #9-50

Marine Corps Special Orders #34-50

OSBORNE, WARREN H., MSgt. (0149) fr IstMarDiv Pendleton to MCRDep Fl. LUSK, GLENN W., MSgt. (0149) fr Sin MCRD NULs. to MCRDepPl. WTEROWSKI, JOSEPH A., MSgt. (3119) fr MCDS Wilkins to Dorr I Hamcer 1981
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SWEET, HERISRIT J., MSct. (6139) fr MD USS
MITTL HIGH L., MSct. (619) fr MCRDep PI to
WEEKE, SNNIS E., MSct. (5014) fr SUMCRD WashIDC to ME Lejeune.
McCOT, JAMES C., MSct. (5014) fr MCAS El Toro
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BRETT, THOMAS B. J., MSgt. (5349) fr MB Lejeune to 6thMCBD Atlanta. SHAW. CHARLES M. JB., TSgt. (6009) fr MCB Quanties to MMarghet Lejeune. FULMORS, JOHN R., TSgt., (6119) fr MB NB Box to MCRIPE Pl. SOTACK, JORCHI G., Seigt. (9147) fr MCDS Phila SOTACK, JONKETH G., Sagt. (9147) fr MCDS Phila to MB Lejemin.
EPIRD, JUNNES C., 1884. (9147) fr HIAMCEDLA to MB Lejemin.
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BROWN, MRgt. (3319) from MB Fundleton to Dit SamFran.
KAPIRG, WILHERT H., MRgt. (3309) fr MC Pundleton to Dit SamFran.
FLYNN, JAMES A., 8884. (3601) fr InfMarDiv Pendleton to Dit SamFran.
FLYNN, JAMES A., 8884. (3601) fr InfMarDiv Pendleton to Dit SamFran.
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# Books



TACTICS AND TECHNIQUE OF INFANTRY. Military Service Publishing Co., Harrisburg, Pa.

\$3.75

The "Tactics and Techniques of Infantry" series were standard prewar text books used by Army ROTC. National Guard and other Reserve components. They contained not only basic weapon and individual training as well as tactics up through battalion, but were based upon approved Field Manuals. This officer found them most valuable references for a company grade Marine. When Marine Corps Schools pamphlets and even many FMs were hard to come by, Vols I and II of Tactics and Technique were often life savers.

The new 1950 edition, "Vol. I of Tactics and Technique of Infantry" is a completely revised, postwar publication based upon war experience and the present doctrines of the Infantry School at Fort Benning. Much of the material is the same that will soon appear in the new Field Manuals dealing with platoon, company, and battalion tactics. It is therefore the latest dope on infantry subjects generally available.

To the Marine infantryman who desires to augment his "Guidebook," Basic School, or Junior Course references this book will be an invaluable addition. In spite of the fact that it is built around U.S. Army infantry organization, the basic tactics are essentially the same and applicable to any variations in Marine Corps organization.

It is noteworthy that such recent additions to Marine armament as the 75-mm. rifle, the 3.5 inch rocket launcher, and the Weapons Company are all given thorough treatments.

Tactics of rifle squad, platoon, and company are covered. The infantry battalion in attack, defense, and in retrograde movements are discussed and illustrated.

An interesting section on the military teams covers the infantry-tank team, the small unit team (patrols), the armored team and of special interest, the battalion landing team.

This latter section on amphibious operations is only a general introduction but it is a clear one. One interesting item under "Mission of Supporting Elements, Air Force," is the statement that the Air Force softens up the beachhead prior to the landing and supports the landing on D-Day. No mention is made of the possibility of Naval or Marine carrier-borne aviation as a supporting element for a landing operation. We are sure that these elements should be on the "first team" on any D-Day.

The book is liberally illustrated with diagramatic drawings demonstrating tactical dispositions, movements, etc. It is too bad that the artists weren't as talented as some of those who illustrated the war-time manuals. However, most of the drawings are quite clear and instructive.

Any infantry officer will find this book interesting and most company grade officers and NCOs should definitely have it among their professional books.



UNITED STATES SUBMARINE
OPERATIONS IN WORLD WAR
II. By Theodore Roscoe. Published
by United States Naval Institute,
Annapolis, Md. \$10.00

JF THE drama and tense excitement behind the sinking of more than five million tons of enemy shipping by our submarines during World War II could be harnessed and sent to Hollywood they would provide enough meat for super-chillers for centuries to come. In his five-pound volume Mr. Roscoe has given a realistic touch to his account of the behind-the-scenes submarine warfare by our men who accounted for 1316 sinkings. He begins with the early days of the war and traces a definite pattern of the defeat, frustration, bulldog tactics of guerrilla warfare, daring raids and ambushes which harrassed the enemy at every turn.

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After firing four torpedoes at an enemy merchantman, The Puffer, early in October, 1943, was forced to dive when attacked by a Jap torpedo boat. A plug from a valve casting was loosened by a depth charge and the bubbles coming to the surface showed where the sub lay hidden on the bottom, deeper than most other subs had ever gone. Depth charges hammered her for 31 hours. Although the sub's temperature reached 125 degrees the men shivered, vomited, drank fruit juices and found that they were almost immobile. But The Puffer outwitted her attackers and made it home.

Mr. Roscoe has presented an accurate picture of submarine operations during the war. He has included more than 200 illustrations and 65 pages of tables and statistical summaries. Although definitely on the defensive with his presentation of the sub's part in the conflict he gives an interesting, exciting account. Mr. Roscoe, if he had been able to get a full account of the actual happenings to our submarines during the early days of the war at Olongapo and Cavite in the Philippines, would have presented an unhappier, more frustrated picture. C.R.L.

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